

SOUTH AFRICAN LIBRARIES

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JUN 20 1955

PERIODICAL
READING ROOM

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The Official Organ of the South African Library Association

Volume 22

April 1955

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RECENT LIBRARY DEVELOPMENTS AT THE CAPE

AFTER A PERIOD of 'marking time' library developments at the Cape are on the move again, and important changes have taken place during the past few months.

It will be recalled that the Cape, in 1940, was the first of the Provinces to act on the recommendations of the *Inter-Departmental Committee on the Libraries of the Union* in respect of rural library services. With the encouragement of Captain Frank Joubert, the Administrator of the day, an Advisory Committee was set up, and a survey of existing public library facilities in the vast area of the Cape was completed and later published.¹ Two experimental services were initiated from Cape Town, the Society for Book Distribution to reach rural communities not served by existing libraries, and the Cape Libraries Extension Association, serving largely non-European readers in the Western Province. After some delays a Library Ordinance providing for the establishment of a Provincial Library Service for the whole of the Cape was drafted and submitted to the Provincial Council.

In view of subsequent developments – or the lack thereof – it is important to record that the Draft Ordinance evolved by the Advisory Committee differed in several vital respects from that finally approved by the Council in 1949. The latter Ordinance has been criticized for being too rigid in its requirements, and for apparently ignoring the principle on which the other three Provincial Services have been built up, namely, by the offer of library service in the form of books and technical assistance to local communities prepared to provide accommodation and to maintain the library and its local staff. The original Draft Ordinance did, in effect, make provision for local responsibility and financial contributions, although not in the same form as in the other Provinces. This provision, and with it the encouragement of local initiative, was eliminated by the Provincial Council against the advice of the professional members of the Advisory Committee, and the Province was persuaded to finance the whole scheme, without realising all the implications. In addition, and also against the advice of the professional members, the vital post of Library Organizer was filled by an administrative official both unqualified and inexperienced in library work.

It is to the credit of the present Provincial Secretary, Mr. W. J. B. Slater, that as the result of a round-table conference at which representatives of the Cape Branch of the S. A. Library Association were invited to be present, it was decided last year to make an

¹ Cape of Good Hope. *Provincial advisory library committee*. Public libraries in Cape Province (rural districts). Survey of existing library conditions in 1940, and report . . . Cape Town, 1944. 23p. See also Varley, D. H. Cape libraries to-day and tomorrow (*S. A. Libraries*, 11 (1), 11–18, July 1943).

² Immelman, R. F. M. *Biblioteekwetgewing vir Kaapland* (*S. A. Biblioteke*, 16 (1) 8–11, Julie 1948). Kritzinger, S. J. 'n Vry provinsiale biblioteekdien vir Kaapland (*S. A. Biblioteke*, 16 (1), 12–18, Julie 1948).

³ Ordinance No. 10 of 1949.

entirely new beginning with the Service, to repeal the existing Ordinance, and to introduce new legislation framed more nearly on the model of the other Provinces. This Draft was published in the *Cape Provincial Gazette* for 14 January 1955, after consultation with the Cape Branch representatives, and was passed during the recent session of the Provincial Council.¹ It was also decided to appoint a new Library Organizer,² and there is every hope that the Service will be led off to a fresh and more promising start during 1955.

Among the provisions of the old Ordinance carried over to the new is that by which the Provincial Administration may subsidize free library services organized in the larger urban areas of the Province – notably in Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Kimberley and East London. Although no advantage has so far been taken by the latter three municipalities of the generous offer made by the Province, it was precisely this 50 per cent assistance which made possible the launching of the City Library Service in Cape Town, which can be regarded as the most successful outcome of the Provincial experiment so far. The building-up of this Service by Mr. B. G. Hood and his staff since 1952 represents the culmination of more than fifteen years' striving by Cape Town librarians; its history will be written in a subsequent number of this journal. It is sufficient to note here that the co-operation between Province and Municipality which has made this development possible, is likely to continue in the new régime.

Further changes at the Cape have recently taken place. Administered for more than sixty years under its own Act of Parliament and by a 'self-perpetuating' Board of Trustees, the South African Library underwent a major transformation in 1954 when the old Act was repealed save for the clauses relating to the Dessinian Collection, and the Library became subject to the State-aided Institutions Act

¹ Provincial Library Service Ordinance, 1955.

² This post has since been filled by Mr. Th. Friis, formerly Natal Provincial Library Organizer.

(No. 23 of 1931) as amended. In effect this has meant an increase in State control matching the considerable increase in Government support during recent years (e.g. from £3,000 in 1938 to £20,000 in 1954): in addition, salary grades and leave conditions have been improved.

While one may regret the passing of the old Act providing for a considerable measure of participation in the management of the Library by the subscribers who supported it for so many lean years, the subscribers themselves have since become an anachronism, through the taking over of the Lending section of the S. A. Library by the City Library Service early in 1955. The ground floor of the Western Wing of the old Library is being used for a period of five years as the central lending unit of the City Service, while the rest of the building and the greater part of the bookstocks and staff continue in the service of the National Reference Library.

This internal operation has not been achieved without a considerable measure of adjustment, psychological as well as technical; but it is a good augury for the possibilities of co-operation on a technical level that the new arrangement is working well, that no staff members have had to be retrenched, and that the rapidly expanding City Library Service is being assisted in its early stages from the stocks and services of the older Library.

But even these changes are transitional. As it concentrates on its bibliographical, reference and research activities the South African Library will expand into a new three-storey fire-proof extension on part of the existing site, for which plans are now well advanced. It will then at last be possible to display and develop the Collections which are the main strength and unique asset of the Library, and to build them up on a national scale. With this objective in mind, a Union-wide Association of Friends of the South African Library, based on the lines of similar bodies at the Bibliothèque Nationale and the Bodleian Library, has been formed; further details will be found elsewhere in this number of *South African Libraries*.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY ON THE AIR

*A South African documentary * devised and produced*

by CECIL JUBBER

ANNOUNCER: The time is a quarter to eight. This evening we pay a visit to the Public Library.

JUBBER: To no one library in particular, but to any of the two hundred and thirty-odd public libraries to be found in South Africa. And naturally during the half hour of our sojourn in it, we can only tell you about certain aspects of the work of a library. But we try, nevertheless, to create a comprehensive picture of the activity going on day by day in the building in your town or city - the building that has been called: "the people's university".

VOICE A: "The people's university" ... where all may come to discover that which they wish to know, whatever it may be. Where all may come ...

SOFT VOICE: The judge, the doctor, the house-wife, the bus driver, the student, the breadman, the beggar, the man in the light-house, the woman behind the counter, the pupil from school.

VOICE B: You know, we're always trying to find out about things ... Ever since the Earth was Eden and we were surprised at the sounds we could make issue from our throats, we have asked questions about ourselves and the world we live in.

VOICE A: To-day the process of finding out is made easy through the organization and services of the public library.

JUBBER: And how are we, this studio side of the microphone, to tell you - sitting, leaning, lying - listening attentively, or with half an ear ...? What is our process - what are the means at our disposal?

* Adapted from the script broadcast nationally from Cape Town on 21 January 1955, and reproduced here by courtesy of the Regional Director, South African Broadcasting Corporation, Cape Town.

VOICE B: The voices of people and the description of places and things and the manner in which they are made to have an effect upon your ears - these are the means. Here is one of them: (*Sound of traffic on disc*). The sound of traffic heard outside the building we are to enter shortly; for we need to convey the difference of atmosphere outside the library and in it - where silence reigns from unforgetting signs about the walls. And here on the steps, up which and down have trudged a million pairs of feet, here on the steps are four people, further means towards our end, whose thoughts and questions we note down, relay to you even now as the traffic (*traffic has faded out*) dies away and we enter through the door, and silence becomes our chief effect. Here's one, a woman with a determined look, bright eyes and a hold-all, who is going to march straight into the lending section and, at the desk, demand:

MRS. BENWELL: A novel, historical please, preferably the 18th century, but not the French Revolution - what is the latest you suggest? I don't want it written in the first person and it must have a happy ending!

VOICE B: Surprisingly such novels do exist and it is the library assistant's job to know where to find them. Certain facts click into place in her well-trained mind. She remembers the reviews of historical romances she has read recently; she recalls what other subscribers have said about a particular book, and what was the name of that book she herself had dipped into only the other day when it arrived? In an instant she has the title ready for approval:

MRS. BENWELL: Oh, do you think that will do?

VOICE B: Or disapproval ... but we leave her now, for here's another of our four: a youngster with a sad story and a doubtful look:

GEORGIA: (*Breathlessly*) I want the sequel to "A Pony of your own". It's called "Ponies and holidays", I think. I think Mary Gervase is a super author, don't you? You see, I could have borrowed my friend Stella Holbrook's copy but we've both sent each other to Coventry so we're not friends any more and I can't borrow it from her. But my mother said: Why don't you join the library? So I'm trying the library and I want to join. Have you got the book?

VOICE B: Whether "Ponies and holidays" is on the library shelves remains to be seen, but there's a good chance. Let's see who's next among our four:

LAMSLEY: I'm from broadcasting: Yes, that's right. I hope to do a programme on the way a public library works. Do you think you could spare me some time? I want to do it from the human interest angle and try to get the facts across as unobtrusively as possible - you know the sort of thing. Difficult assignment but interesting - I hope! That's as interesting as you can make it . . .

VOICE B: He is addressing the young woman who is the Head of the Reference Section of the Library. Obviously used to requests of any kind, she takes our reporter's questions in her stride. There is a certain sympathy between them - as of one servant of the public to another - though their spheres of action are vastly different. And now the fourth of the quartet of questioners at the door. Enter a Mother, somewhat worried. And here's her argument:

MRS. PARTRIDGE: (*Nervously*) My name is Partridge . . . Mrs. Partridge. My husband and I - we're worried about our daughter's future. She's not terribly strong you know and she's rather shy, doesn't feel awfully at ease with people . . . But she loves reading and we feel - my husband and I - we feel the library would be just the place for her - as a career I mean. Perhaps you could advise us?

VOICE B: Perhaps at the conclusion of our visit to-day you will have formed some opinion yourself, Mrs. Partridge. In the meantime, do you realize that 70 per cent of a librarian's work is dealing with people - people like

yourself, and the other three we've heard already? And even though your daughter might care for reading, would she be able to cope with these sorts of queries - a hundred of them a day - each demanding a reasonable answer; each of supreme importance to the person wanting to know:

VOICES: 1. Does Japan export lily bulbs and if so, what is the address of the exporters?

2. Does bath water revolve from left to right in the Southern Hemisphere, or is it the other way round?

3. Have you information on the waterproofing of cameras for underwater photography?

4. How old was Rachmaninoff when he wrote his second piano concerto?

5. On what day did the 20th of August 1927 fall?

6. Have you a picture of a wooden plough, the sort that would have been in use in the Cape in 1790?

7. What is the population of Trinidad?

(*A telephone bell starts ringing*)

8. Have you any books on Danish nursery schools?

9. What was the name of the suffragette who threw herself in front of the King's horse?

10. Are cats mentioned in the Bible?

MISS FREEMAN: (*Laughing*) You see, we get all sorts! Some of them serious, and some not quite so serious! Excuse me a second will you, the telephone - I must answer it . . .

LAMSLEY: Certainly! (*As an on the spot commentator*). At the moment I'm standing at the Reference desk in the heart of the library. The voice you've just heard was that of Rose Freeman, in charge here, who's going to help answer one or two questions. I'll try to set the scene for you . . . Just yonder are two large cabinets of small drawers, one labelled Author Catalogue and the other Subject Catalogue. In them, the monster check on all the books of reference in the library. There's a card for every book, filed alphabetically like a dictionary. If you look through the subject catalogue you'll find the subjects are always listed under the noun rather than the

adjective. So if you were looking for a book called "Social Conditions in England under the time of Victoria" you'd look under England not Victorian England. So, well, I suppose ... Hmm, Miss Freeman's still on the phone. To the right from where I'm standing is the Reading Room. I can see rows of tables at which students, casuals, questioners from all walks of life, read or study. And apart from the atmosphere of erudition and knowledge there is silence ... Silence ... The lending section is on the left where I stand, where book-hunters prowl through groves of novels, biographies, plays, detective stories, thrillers ... the slanting sun dapples through tall windows at the day's end. Miss Freeman has left me one or two slim looking volumes on librarianship as a career ... here's one that opens with a history. Let's place our subject in perspective.

READER 1 : (*In other studio*) Ever since the first centuries of the Christian Era, libraries have been closely connected with the development of learning. In Roman times the great library of Alexandria was famous throughout the civilized world. After the break up of the Western Roman Empire, the libraries maintained by the Church and the Monasteries helped to preserve knowledge at a time when manuscript copying was still the only method of book-production. And in the early Middle Ages the great University libraries came into being. There is evidence that - even in these early times - students were allowed to borrow books from the libraries; but precious and irreplaceable manuscripts were kept chained to desks or lecterns. Later, as stocks of books increased, shelves came into use and the chains were attached to a bar running along the front of each shelf. A book list at the end of each shelf was the earliest form of catalogue. During the 14th century a taste for book collecting was already arising outside the Church. This taste in turn was stimulated by the Renaissance love of learning and the possibility of buying printed books. Both these reasons led to great increases during the following centuries in the size and number of private libraries and the libraries of learned societies. Many famous private collections were bequeathed to, or acquired by university and other libraries. The collection built up by Sir Thomas Bodley, for instance, formed the nucleus of the Bodleian at Oxford; the British

Museum Library, founded as a National library in the 1750's contains the libraries of some of the Kings of England.

LAMSLEY : I wonder whether any of the Union's libraries has similar origins?

READER 1 : Well, the beginning of the South African Public Library in Cape Town - just as one example - goes back to the 18th century, when a man named von Dessim gave his private collection to the Dutch Reformed Church, and it was made available by the Church for general use. Later, during the British Occupation, this collection became the starting point for the Library as it is known to-day ... (*With a chuckle*) ... it's interesting to note that at first funds to maintain it were partly obtained through the levy of a penny tax on wine.

FREEMAN : (*Off*) That's quite all right ... Goodbye.

(*Receiver replaced*)

(*Approach*) So sorry to have kept you.

LAMSLEY : Someone important?

FREEMAN : (*Laughing*) Oh, no! Just a typist from some City firm phoning to ask whether 'combatted' has two 't's or one! She sounded quite desperate.

LAMSLEY : Do you mean to say you're expected to provide information over the telephone as well?

FREEMAN : Within reason, yes. Any sort of factual "short answer" type of queries are welcome. It's when callers start asking us to read two and three pages of text over the phone that we have to draw the line. But we're beginning with a point that's very by the way. This programme of yours, well, it's going to be ...

BOTH : Rather difficult to get started! (*Both laugh*)

LAMSLEY : Well, of course, at the moment, I just want to spy out the lie of the land. I'll work out the details later.

FREEMAN : I mean - are you going to concentrate on the reference side of the work - and the facts on their own can be very dull! - or are you going to underline the lending side? Then, of course, that's not all the work we do ...

LAMSLEY : Well, I think most people know that if they want to borrow a book that's not a work of reference, it's the easiest thing in the world to become a member of the library. That young girl who came in with me - she's probably finding out just how easy right now . . . (Fade out. Fade up)

GEORGIA : Is this the Children's Section ?

EDNA : It is . . . now, the books here are shelved alphabetically - what was your author's name again ?

GEORGIA : Gervaise . . . Mary Gervaise.

EDNA : Well, let's see . . . D . . . E . . . F Here we are - G . . . G . . .

GEORGIA : Here's "Great Expectations" . . .

EDNA : Yes - but it's the author we're after . . .

GEORGIA : Why ?

EDNA : The books are arranged that way.

GEORGIA : Why ?

EDNA : Simply because the surname of an author is usually one word and the titles of the books he writes -

GEORGIA : She writes !

EDNA : In this case "she" writes - usually more than one and that can be confusing. Ah, Gervaise ! Here's the book : "A Pony of your own" . . . is that the one you wanted ?

GEORGIA : Oh, no ! It's "Ponies and holidays" I want . . . do you mean it isn't there ?

EDNA : Mary Gervaise must be a popular author - "Ponies and holidays" is out on loan.

GEORGIA : Oh ! . . .

EDNA : There's no need to be so sad about it ; whoever has borrowed it must return it within fourteen days. And if you ask us to book it in your name now, the borrower can't renew his loan.

GEORGIA : You mean you'll let me know ?

EDNA : Why, of course - are you a member of the library ?

GEORGIA : Well, I was thinking of joining . . . but now I'll have to wait such a long time.

EDNA : All you have to do is fill in a form . . . (Going off) here at the desk . . . (Approach) How old are you ?

GEORGIA : Thirteen and a half.

EDNA : We'll need the signature of one of your parents to vouch for your responsibility. If you take this form home you can ask them to sign it then . . . (Fade out. Fade up)

FREEMAN : Yes, I agree with you it is the easiest thing in the world. And the Children's Department of the lending library is just like the adults' - writ small. As a rule the children's section provides the most rewarding work, for the child is more obviously curious to find out about things than his sometimes inhibited parent; he asks questions more easily, is less scared of showing his ignorance. And the children's librarian can guide the youngsters' reading habits to a greater extent - can impress upon him early on that he can come to the library to find out anything he wants to know.

LAMSLEY : Even the answers to competition questions on Springbok Radio ?

FREEMAN : Well, yes, that does happen. If we relented and provided the answers - which of course we don't - we'd have to have at least three other telephone lines. Besides, I don't know how you feel about it, but I don't think it's altogether ethical . . .

LAMSLEY : Now that we seem to be swinging over to your side of the work, perhaps you could tell me something about it.

FREEMAN : The Reference Section ?

LAMSLEY : Yes . . . you won't mind if I make a few notes ?

FREEMAN : Not at all. If I were to define the Reference Library I'd say it was a sort of super Encyclopaedia. What are the criteria by which one judges an encyclopaedia - like the Britannica, say ? In the first place, it must be comprehensive, covering as far as possible the whole field of knowledge and not, as some people mistakenly believe, only literature and the sciences. Not all the books you see being handed across the Reference Desk are for the earnest student of, say, Geology, Astronomy, Virgil or the Theory of Relativity. Some of those books may be about antiques, Diesel engines, Siamese cats - or How to hang curtains. A few may be for someone wanting to know how to design a kitchen. Yet another may be a dictionary of girls' names required by the

frantic parents who were so sure it was going to be a boy. Books on Etiquette, Dresden China, Pirates – or how to play Mah-jong – there is no end to the subject list. And secondly, a good encyclopaedia should be able to provide short factual answers – what we call “quick reference” – to any question.

LAMSLEY: Like whether combatted has two t's?

FREEMAN: That's right ... or like one I had this morning. Someone wanting to know "On what date did Easter Sunday fall in 1831?"

LAMSLEY: But surely you can't have material covering every subject ...?

FREEMAN: You're quite right – we don't. But our search for the information the individual requires does not end once we've exhausted the resources of our own particular library. Through the inter-library loan scheme we have virtually the entire book stock of all the libraries in the Union at our disposal; and if the enquiry warrants it, there have been occasions when we have gone still further afield and borrowed books from libraries overseas as well. *(Fade out and Fade up)*

Voice A: The inter-library loan service works like this: we'll presume that you are studying a rather specialised subject like the Evil Demons in Arabian Mythology. Having seen everything the Reference section of your particular library has been able to unearth, you decide that you need more information. During the course of investigation, mention is made of a book of Arabian folk lore which, you learn, contains a whole chapter on demons. Your library, not having that book on its shelves writes to the Central Library in Pretoria asking the authorities to trace it for you. The title is then added to a list of books required, which is circulated to all South African libraries. *(Faint fade out and up)*

FREEMAN: Say, then, for argument's sake, the book is traced to the Durban Library: they are then asked to lend it to us for you and we in turn ask you to refund the postage.

LAMSLEY: I think I can safely say I'll never want to look up the Evil Demons in Arabian Mythology!

FREEMAN: You might not – but somewhere, sometime, someone may need the information

and – well, we have to do our best to provide it. And if, for some reason, the book cannot be lent out ... it may be rare and the library might not like to trust it to the post – or it might be too heavy ... we could always have the necessary pages photostatted or microfilmed for you.

LAMSLEY: I see ...

FREEMAN: I do hope this is the kind of information you're looking for ... *(Fade out and up)*

VOICE B: What kind of information is it exactly you're looking for, Mrs. Partridge?

PARTRIDGE: Oh, I thought I'd explained ... I – we – wanted to know all about a librarian's job, because we thought our daughter might like to take it up, as a career.

VOICE B: Let us consider first of all then the kind of person who makes a librarian. She – or he – must first of all like working with people – since, as we've already said, working with people forms the greater part of her activities in the library. And people can be difficult ... let's take Edna Jenkins as an example – there she is at the desk. Edna's been here some two or three years now: she's beginning to feel settled in. She's got used to the shift work – you realize that all public library assistants work in shifts since the library is open for a certain time at night and on Saturday afternoons and evenings. Someone's just gone up to her desk :

MRS. BENWELL: *(Off)* I want the newspapers of 1932, please!

VOICE B: Hullo, that sounds like someone we've heard before. She must be after something more than just an historical novel in the third person!

MRS. BENWELL: I said I want to see all the newspapers round about March 1932, please. A friend of mine who works on the "News" told me you'd have them here.

EDNA: Well, not here exactly.

MRS. BENWELL: I'll have to wait?

EDNA: The newspapers are filed away upstairs in the stack-room. We usually like to have a day's notice before getting them down.

MRS. BENWELL : What next ? It didn't occur to me yesterday I'd be wanting to look at them to-day!

EDNA : Will you sign this slip, please ?

MRS. BENWELL : Slip ?

EDNA : Yes - just so that we know who you are.

MRS. BENWELL : Do you think I'm going to steal your precious files ?

EDNA : Not at all ; but you'll have to refer to them here in the reading room you see . . . Your slip is given to the assistant who goes up and fetches the papers for you.

MRS. BENWELL : You mean I can't take them away ?

EDNA : You might find that rather difficult - a year's issues of one newspaper bound together can be rather a weight.

MRS. BENWELL : Well, of all the -

EDNA : Besides being irreplaceable, newspapers are very fragile. I'm sure you'll understand they are our most treasured possession.

MRS. BENWELL : If I'd known it was going to be so much bother -

EDNA : Oh, no bother at all. Would you mind telling me what it is you want to look up - birth records, accidents - a law case ?

MRS. BENWELL : Well . . .

EDNA : I may be able to help you.

MRS. BENWELL : As a matter of fact, it is a law case . . . my brother . . . he drove into a lorry in 1932 and was sued by the company for a good deal of money. I wanted to find out how much exactly - I wanted to check . . . name's Benwell - Mrs. J. W. That's right.

EDNA : Address ?

MRS. BENWELL : Twentyfour, Burns Grove.

EDNA : Now if you don't mind waiting a few minutes, the boy's just going up . . . why don't you take a seat ?

(*Fade out and up*)

VOICE B : The librarian, you see, must be able to combine tact with patience, sympathy with interest. Should someone come from the

catalogue and complain loudly : "There is no card for Shakespeare!" she does not pound the desk and say :

EDNA : The library records must be right!

VOICE B : She says instead :

EDNA : No card for Shakespeare ? There should be, do you mind showing me where you looked ?

VOICE B : It is not necessary that she knows everything, but she should know where to put her finger on a particular subject. Here, for instance, is a question she might receive from a local dramatic society :

VOICE A : Would a valet in the time of Charles the Second have been clean-shaven, or would he have had a moustache, or side whiskers, or a beard ?

VOICE B : She would refer first of all to the library's picture collections made up from cuttings out of magazines. Should this be of no use, she would look up the catalogue under :

EDNA : Costume, English. The general number 391. One moment, Sir.

VOICE B : She must know where to look, even though the subject may be Greek to her.

EDNA : (*Conversationally*) You know, the person who's most unpopular with us is the would-be borrower who comes in and says : "I want everything on the Kalahari . . . everything!" Well, obviously, we decide, he must be writing an article or a thesis or a book. And so we spend valuable time looking for the material he wants. We discover that there are only one or two general books on the subject, so we start looking up articles in periodicals - we look up under Wild Life, under Ethnology - to find out more about the fauna and natives of the place - we start getting really interested and enthusiastic ourselves. This you feel is the really satisfying part of your job. Our enquirer eventually comes for his material and looks slightly appalled at the pile of books we've taken out for him. Then his eyes light on Lawrence Green's "To the River's End" which deals with the Kalahari, says : That will do nicely, and off he goes.

LAMSLEY : And that is where the Librarian's self-control comes in as opposed to her other virtues.

FREEMAN: It's not so bad as that! What the enquirer has lost in opportunity she has gained in experience. I expect you'll want to know what kind of references are available supplementary to the bookstock. Besides encyclopedias - of which we have numbers, representative of as many languages - there are the dictionaries. And not only dictionaries of words, but others - of quotations, engineering terms and so on. Then we have shelves of overseas telephone directories to serve those who want to find out :

FEMALE: Rex Harrison's address - please!

FREEMAN: - and for more serious requests, besides. We have also Year-books and Government publications, all of which may come in useful in the solving of a particular query. Then there are our newspaper files. Newspapers are an invaluable source of information, and where history books are too general, the "daily" of the period can isolate the particular. Let's have a look at "The Cape Monitor" a hundred years ago :

LAMSLEY: January 21st ?

FREEMAN: January 21st - 1855.

GEORGIA: May I have a look too ?

FREEMAN: Certainly, but be careful of the way you turn the pages ; they tear very easily. (Faint fade out)

VOICE B : The leaves are yellow with age and the absence of photographs is the first thing we notice. The pages too seem larger, though that may be our imagination. There are advertisements all over page one, some of them quaintly worded :

GEORGIA: (Reading) For Sale : One Gelding. This morning Mr. Crouch will sell on the Grand Parade a black gelding. Six years old - stands fifteen hands - is very quiet and has carried a lady. Oh, and here's a letter to the Editor. They seemed to have complained about much the same thing in 1855 as they do to-day ... "Shameful state of the roads . . ."

(Faint fade out and up)

READER 2 : (in other studios) "Sir, I addressed you some few weeks back respecting the state of the road between Cape Town and Mowbray ; I do so again in the hope that you may suggest some means by which the public may obtain redress. At that time it was very bad, but now it is impossible to find ten feet of it that is not in

a most disgraceful state ; those that have the management ought to be ashamed to allow it to remain as it now is, full of holes and stones, some of the latter as large as paving stones ; it is so bad that the best horses cannot help stumbling. A short time since, Mr. Steytler was riding a horse worth £60 that was brought down by tripping over loose stones and so badly cut both knees as to lower his value by £40. Vehicles are also a constant expense - every two or three days a bolt, nut or screw is gone . . ."

(Fade out)

VOICE B : Besides newspapers, some libraries offer the serious student access to original sources. The South African Library in Cape Town, for instance, has the originals of some of the letters of Lady Anne Barnard who wrote describing her experiences in South Africa to Henry Dundas in England :

GEORGIA: How neatly she wrote! Let's see . . . this letter's dated 1797 - over 150 years ago. The ink's a little faded, but I think I can manage to make it out . . .

(Fade out and up)

READER 3 : (As Anne Barnard) To-day we dined at Herold's farm ; the owner was a plain Boer with a large family of children, as they all have. I liked to see the ducks and chickens walk about in the room, as if part of the company, and with pleasure observed two or three swallow's nests in the corners of the room, which I imagine it would be deemed unlucky to pull down, else their love of propriety would make them do so. There were two pretty daughters, who will be so for a year or two more but then one of the chief features of beauty almost invariably begins to go - namely the front teeth, which are rarely possessed by the women after thirty. Smoking saves the men's but it leaves them black. I am quite delighted to find that their pipes are no longer offensive to me and wish that . . .

(Fade out)

PARTRIDGE: You know, all this may be very interesting, but it doesn't tell me how my daughter should train to become a librarian.

VOICE B : In that case, Mrs. Partridge, here's part of a conversation that should interest you. (Fade up)

LAMSLEY: I see ... Miss Freeman - can you tell me something about the training of librarians in this country?

FREEMAN: Well, yes, let's start with the courses offered by the University of Cape Town. There are two courses there: the Certificate and the Higher Certificate Course.

LAMSLEY: Both open to matriculants, I suppose?

FREEMAN: For the Certificate Course, yes. This gives a general introduction to librarianship. It takes a year to complete but may be spread over two. Subjects would include: Book Production, Bookstock and assistance to readers, General Literature, Library practice, Cataloguing and Classification.

LAMSLEY: And what sort of posts would these students be able to apply for?

FREEMAN: On the whole, the more junior posts of course. The Higher Certificate students are trained for more advanced posts and this course is therefore more intensive and requires a broader educational background; so only entrants with degrees are accepted for this course.

LAMSLEY: Any kind of degree?

FREEMAN: Well, a B. A. is the usual, but a B. Sc. can also be taken. What people don't realize is that the scope of a librarian is vastly on the increase. There are now not only public libraries, but many special libraries in existence - libraries of a technical nature which serve, for instance, the fishing industry, the Chamber of Mines, Forestry, the Agricultural Department, the Supreme Court - and to these not only women but also men are suited. It's a mistaken idea that librarianship is a woman's career.

LAMSLEY: Presumably the University course would involve some practical work?

FREEMAN: Oh, yes - all theory must be put into practice and during the year's vacations, students are farmed out to the different branches

of the Varsity Library and to other recognized libraries to do field work.

LAMSLEY: And what about those who are not able to go to Varsity but are still keen to take up the work?

FREEMAN: Well, the South African Library Association runs a correspondence course which the librarian may follow while she is actually working.

LAMSLEY: That must be rather difficult - I mean, to work and write exams at the same time.

FREEMAN: It has an advantage though: working in the library in the daytime, the student will naturally grasp her book work more quickly; but of course she has no time for concentrated study, as at University, and instead of passing in one year will take several before completing her course.

(*Fade out. Fade up*)

VOICES: 1. When was the first railway line extended as far as Kimberley?

2. What salaries do judges earn in New Zealand?

3. Have you any pictures of sundials?

4. What is the fare from Southampton to London?

VOICE B: And thus we too have completed our visit to the Public Library - a people's university where all may come to discover that which they wish to know, whatever it may be. We end where we began, with the noise of the traffic in the distance: (*Traffic up and out under*) and the rumour of a thousand questions in our ears:

VOICES: 5. Which is the oldest university in Europe?

6. What do chameleons eat besides flies?

7. How many Doctors came to South Africa with the 1820 settlers?

8. Who were in the cast of this documentary feature?

JORIS VORSTIUS, 60 JAAR

PROF. H. J. DE VLEESCHAUWER

Universiteit van Suid-Afrika, Pretoria

TWEE gedenkwaardighede het die sestigjarige Vorstius begroet: eerstens die feesbundel, *Bibliothek - Bibliothekar - Bibliothekwissenschaft* (Leipzig, Harrassowitz, 1954, vii, 440 pp. 24 DM); tweedens die vyfde edisie van sy *Grundzüge der Bibliotheksgeschichte* (Leipzig, Harrassowitz, 1954, vii, 138 pp.). Voor en aalre ons hierdie twee werke kortlik aan die leser bekend wil stel, wil die *Suid-Afrikaanse Biblioteke* by hierdie geleentheid eweneens sy gelukwense toestuur aan een van die mees verdienstelike wêreldvorsers op die gebied van die bibliografie. In watter hoek van die wêreld die biblioteekwetenskap ook al mag beoefen word, nêrens kan dit verbykom aan instrumente soos die *Index bibliographicus*, die *Internationale Bibliographie des Buch- und Bibliothekswesens* wat steeds een van die aantreklikhede van die *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* was, aan die *Internationales Jahrbuch der Bibliographie* waarmee Vorstius blywende verdienste en erkentlikheid van die hele boek- en biblioteekwêreld verwerf het. Terselfdertyd moet ons herinner aan die geweldige aandeel wat hy gehad het aan die so-ewe vermelde *Zentralblatt*, een van die deeglikste tydskrifte vir biblioteekwetenskap van die wêreld waarvan hy sedert 1947 die uitgewer en die leier is, nadat hy dit jarelank as 'n trou medewerker gedien het. Met hierdie kort terugblik op 'n lang en verdienstelike lewenswerk wil ons sowel uit 'n gevoel van kollegiale humaniteit as uit 'n gevoel van wetenskaplike egoïsme graag die jubilaris 'n hartlik „ad multos annos“ toeroep.

In hierdie voorwaardes was die bo-vermelde „Fest“-schrift vir die Duitse biblioteekwêreld eintlik 'n „Pflicht“-schrift. Dis natuurlik onmoontlik om hier vier en dertig selfstandige bydraes afsonderlik te bespreek; ons is verplig om ons aan die bundel as 'n geheel te hou, wat in ooreenstemming met die werkgebiede van die jubilaris self in drie dele verdeel is, nl. bibliografie, biblioteekpraktyk en biblioteekgeskiedenis. Nie een uitgewer van soortgelyke jubileumskrifte kan die versekering hê en die

versekering gee dat by so 'n groot aantal bydraes almal van dieselfde waarde en dieselfde gehalte sal wees nie. In hierdie onvermydelikhed moes waarskynlik die uitgewers van hierdie feesuitgawe hulle skik.

In die eerste deel gaan ons persoonlike belangstelling na die twee bydraes van W. Fuchs en van F. A. Schmitt, die eerste oor die sistematiek van wetenskap wat nie sonder invloed op die bibliografie is nie; die tweede oor 'n nuwe bibliografiese vorm, nl. die tema- of motiefbibliografie (as ek my eie terminologie aan die van die outeur mag substitueer) en wat Schmitt hier op die Duitse letterkundige geskiedenis toepas. Maar ook buitekant laasgenoemde gebied is sy uiteensetting belangwekkend, want die belangrikheid en die nut van soortgelyke instrumente sal so groot wees dat orals waar hulle opgemaak mag word, elke ideeëgeskiedenis hulle as 'n ideale hulpmiddel sal begroet.

Die tweede, nl. die biblioteektegniese deeldeel laat die klem val op die dokumentasie as die primêre funksie van die biblioteek. In elke geval die bydraes wat regstreeks of onregstreeks hierdie tema aansny, behoort tot die belangwekkendste van die afdeling. Oor die derde, die biblioteekhistoriese afdeling, is ek die minste tevrede. Watter waarde elke bydrae op homself ook al mag hê, die afdeling lyk my as geheel te heterokliet saamgestel om indruk te maak en die bydraes besit werklik 'n al te lokale belang om bevrediging te skenk.

Ons verwelkom tog die publikasie nie bloot as blyk van hulde aan een van die verdienstelikste manne uit die navorsingswêreld van ons werkgebied nie, maar ook as 'n kollektiewe manifestasie van die biblioteekwetenskap wat ons weens sy inhoud met belangstelling kan lees en wat plek-plek 'n simpatieke poging doen om ou bande te laat spring en dit waag om nuwe rigtings aan te wys waaroor ons met vrug ons gedagtes kan laat gaan. Terwyl die *Festschrift* wat hier aan Vorstius aangebied word die hulde van 'n aantal vakgenote uitspreek, sluit die stille, anonieme hulde van die legio nie-

meewerkende vakgenote onmiddellik aan. Want die groot anonieme publiek van die biblioteekwetenskap het die sestig jaar van Joris Vorstius op 'n ander, ewe simpatieke manier gehuldig, nl. deur om in so 'n kort tydbestek die vyfde uitgawe van die klein geskiedeniswerk oor die biblioteke van die jubilaris se hand moontlik te maak. Die eerste uitgawe dagteken van 1935, die voorlaaste van 1948.

Ons is nie ryklik van handboeke vir biblioteekgeskiedenis voorsien nie. Die derde deel van Miklau se *Handbuch der Bibliothekswissenschaft* was by die verskyning van die eerste edisie in 1940 die enigste volledige wat ons besit en is dit by sy heruitgawe in 1953-1955 nog. Aan kleiner didakties bruikbare oorsigte is daar ook maar min, en behalwe die *Grundzüge* van Vorstius is die Engelse vertaling van Alfred Hessel se handboekie die enigste wat my in hierdie verband bekend is. Dat die *Grundzüge* so baie edisies kon belewe – die vyfde lyk sekerlik nie die laaste te wees nie – lewer die beste bewys vir die uitstaande didaktiese waarde van hierdie klein handboek van 138 paginas wat in sy opeenvolgende edisies steeds bruikbaarder geword het.

Om so 'n ryk en bevatlik ontwikkelde materiaal in so 'n beperkte plekruimte te kan onderbring, daarvoor moes die volstrekte meesterskap oor die stof en 'n streng skrywersdissipline

mekaar die hand reik. Dit kon slegs bereik word op basis van 'n telegramstyl wat met 'n byna asketiese selfverloëning die literêre inkleding aan die bedoeling en die beperking ondergeskik maak. As ek die twee handboekies van Hessel en Vorstius met mekaar vergelyk, sou ek sê dat belangstellende outodidakte spontaan na Hessel se een sal gryp, maar dat die skoolwêreld, – dosent en student-sekerlik dié van Vorstius sal verkies, omdat dit presies die ideale kader vir 'n *ad hoc* onderwys bied. Dit mag ook vir ons die oplossing van die geheim van sy gewildheid aan die hand doen. Dat hierdie gewildheid hom nog 'n keer in volle duidelikheid geopenbaar het ter geleentheid van die sesde lewensdekade wat die jubilaris ingaan, moet vir hom die sekerheid en die oortuiging skep dat hy goeie werk gelewer het en dat die wêreld hierdie goeie werk ook waardeer.

Daarom begroet ons van ons kant die heruitgawe van 'n handboek wat homself deur sy geringe prys aan die groot biblioteekpubliek aanbeveel. Ek wil hierdie kort resensiewoord nie afsluit nie sonder om nog 'n keer uitdrukking te gee aan die bewonderende waardering van die Suid-Afrikaanse biblioteekwetenskap aan iemand wie se lewenswerk van so 'n aard is dat dit ons onophoudend oor die lippe en uit die pen moet kom.

THOSE COMICS

Bennett Cerf tells the story of a small boy in Hollywood brought up entirely on a diet of horror comics. After many earnest efforts he was finally persuaded to try "real" literature, and given *Uncle Tom's Cabin* to start off with. He has now read it three times over, and still thinks that Simon Legree is the hero.

ARMCHAIR TRAVEL IN THE TRANSVAAL

by H. M. ROBINSON

Library Organizer, Transvaal Provincial Library

TOWARDS THE END of 1953 the Transvaal Provincial Library, at the request of the S. A. Library Association's Publicity Committee and in collaboration with South African book-sellers and publishers and the American and Netherlands Embassies, organized a "Children's Bookweek" in the public libraries of some thirty rural towns of the Transvaal. Ten displays, each containing 250 books in Afrikaans, English, Dutch, Flemish and German suitable for children under the age of twelve, were exhibited in ten different towns simultaneously. The displays were opened by the Mayors and additional programmes such as film shows and talks by local authors were arranged in connection with the book displays. This represented the first attempt to organize bookweeks of any kind in the rural towns. The general reaction proved that the project was fully justified and that the time was ripe for something more ambitious.

The moral lesson of the 1954 Bookweek series was that through the reading of good books one could gain knowledge of the nature, the scenery, the peoples, arts and cultures of foreign countries; and that good books provided the ideal means of "armchair travel". After the 1953 Children's Bookweek it was decided to organize the 1954 Bookweeks for High School students and adults (although it proved quite impossible to prevent the younger ones from enthusiastic participation!).

Popular, good and well-produced books of travel and description formed the centre and focal point of the Armchair Travel Bookweek. Books on the ten countries taking part were purchased and prepared to accompany the displays that went to the eight regions in the Province. The diplomatic and consular representatives of those countries were asked to participate in the Bookweek; to supply a speaker to accompany the displays and give introductory talks on his country; to meet people and answer questions; to supply a good representative display of pictures, posters, photographs, maps and other material to

illustrate various aspects of life in the country; and to lend good (if possible colour) documentary films on the country concerned.

The "Bookweek" on each country (or group of countries) then, meant that four or five towns would be visited from a Monday to a Friday; in individual towns it really meant a "Book Day". Upon arrival the displays were assembled in the mornings and could be visited by the public (usually in the town halls) during the afternoons. In many cases programmes for the children were arranged in the afternoons consisting of a short talk and a film show. In the evenings programmes for older children and adults were offered which usually took the following form :

- (a) Opening and short welcome by the Mayor or his representative;
- (b) Short explanation of the display, the bookweek and the services of the local public library and the Provincial Library, by the Library Organizer;
- (c) Address by the foreign representative;
- (d) Question time;
- (e) A popular, general quiz on South Africa and the country under discussion between a team of local ladies versus a team of local men (questions alternately on South Africa and the country concerned, alternately in Afrikaans and English);
- (f) Interval (refreshments sold in aid of local library or local charity); and
- (g) Film show of approximately 60-90 minutes. The S. A. Tourist Corporation supplied two films "Coastal holiday in South Africa"; and "S. A. Highways" - one of which was shown as part of every programme.

It was always pointed out to the audiences that the programmes should be regarded only as an introduction to the countries concerned, only as stimulants and appetizers; and that the real means of Armchair Travel could be found in the local free public library the next

day, since the books on display would be left behind in the local library and would be available for free circulation. In order to achieve this five sets of the titles for display had to be procured. All copies of books already in stock in the Provincial Library were pooled in the region where they would be required. New books purchased for the Bookweek were ordered in sets of five, sent out first to the region where they would be required for free circulation after the Bookweek. From here they would be returned (after approximately three months) to Central for final allocation to the Regional libraries. In order to determine the use made of the books at local libraries after the programme complete statistics would be compiled of the number of issues for the different titles.

The books for display had to be carefully selected : each title had to represent an aspect or distinguishing activity of the country concerned ; the books had to present as complete a picture of the country as the existing resources and available funds would permit ; the whole display collection had to be selected from the "popular" angle and had to consist as far as possible of new titles.

The compilation of the printed Booklist presented an even greater problem : only one list could be printed for the whole series of bookweeks and only seventy titles in all could be incorporated, so that for each country only six or eight titles could be included.

In spite of the fact that the preliminary organization had to be completed while Parliament was in session (and hence most of the foreign missions were in Cape Town) the diplomatic and consular representatives reacted very favourably to the project. The following countries took part : United Kingdom, Austria, Sweden, U. S. A., Germany, Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, Israel, the Netherlands and Australia.

On Friday, 4th June 1954, the Hon. the Administrator of the Transvaal officially launched the Bookweek programme at a preview of the United Kingdom display. This preview, which was held in the auditorium of the Film Services Division, Pretoria, was attended by members of the Diplomatic Corps, members of the Executive Committee and senior officials of the Provincial Administration ; members of the Transvaal Library Advisory Board and librarians from Pretoria

and Johannesburg ; heads of Government Departments and the Press.

In the course of his speech Dr. W. Nicol explained that the Bookweeks would be offered as a joint effort ; that

- (a) the books, transport, quiz, general organization and publicity would be arranged by the Transvaal Provincial Library ;
- (b) the speakers, films and display material would be provided by the representatives of the participating countries concerned ;
- (c) the municipalities and local communities would act as hosts to the Bookweek ; would allow the free use of their town halls and projectors and would see to it that large audiences attended.

It would be impossible, in the course of a short article, to do justice to the fine contributions made by the overseas representatives but a few words on each of the Bookweeks are called for.

- (a) The first in the series was the programme on the *United Kingdom* which was offered from 21st to 25th June in the following Lowveld towns : Carolina, Barberton (as part of 70th anniversary celebrations), Nelspruit, White River and Sabie.

Miss M. Malherbe of the staff of the British Information Office built a magnificent display in which all countries of the Commonwealth were represented on approximately 26 screens of 6ft x 4ft. Mr. D. R. F. Brower, Deputy Information Officer came as speaker and brought with him such excellent coloured documentary films as "Royal Scotland", "Gardens of England" and "Road to Canterbury".

The Assistant in charge of the Barberton Regional Library borrowed a loud-speaker which was installed in the Book Van and was used to announce the programme throughout the town each day. Approximately 1,250 people attended the programmes during the week.

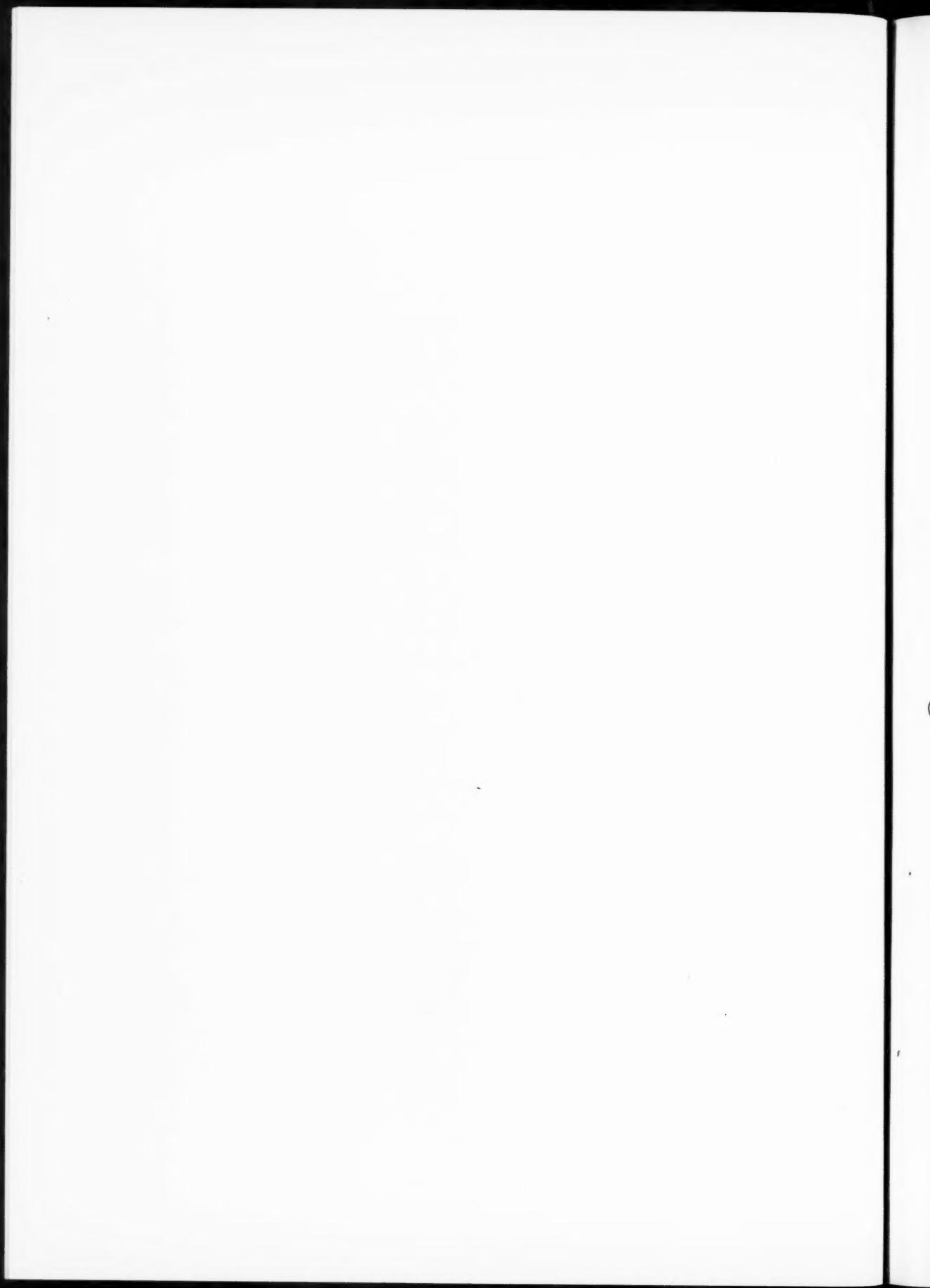
- (b) The second in the series held in Northern Transvaal was a combined effort by *Austria* and *Sweden*. Mr. S. A. Grohs (Hon. Austrian Trade Representative)



Photo: Pretoria News

ARMCHAIR TRAVEL IN THE TRANSVAAL

Baron C.J. Rappe (Swedish Chargé d'Affaires), H.M. Robinson (Transvaal Library Organizer) and S.A. Grohs (Hon. Austrian Trade Representative).



and Baron C. J. Rappe (Swedish Chargé d'Affaires) were both fascinated by the mildness of the climate in the Northern Transvaal from 26th to 30th July. They visited Naboomspruit, Potgietersrust, Pietersburg, Louis Trichardt and Swartwater. During this week attendances were on the increase and at Swartwater people travelled long distances in order to attend the programme.

The Austrian display consisted of 13 panels of fine artistic photographs; beautiful posters, some stamps and twelve small dolls in national costume. Everywhere audiences appreciated the film on Austrian composers and their music.

The Swedish Legation built a very interesting and informative display of photographs, pictures, posters, maps and flags and also added some books to the collection. The children at Swartwater were fascinated by the Swedish songs which Baron Rappe very ably sang to them. The films "Farming in Sweden" and "Skiing" meant indeed a long armchair trip to Northern Transvaal audiences. A total of 1,621 people attended the programmes on Austria and Sweden.

(c) Whereas most of the other representatives stressed the scenic, touristic and way-of-life aspects of their countries, the *United States of America* offered a purely educational exhibition on 10 screens, supported by many interesting posters and a plastic relief map of the U. S. A. Mr. Alan Nelson, U. S. Information Officer in Johannesburg acted as speaker. He was accompanied by his wife who very ably assisted the Library Organizer as quiz mistress. The younger generation especially was fascinated by the documentary film "American Cowboy", depicting the actual daily life of the Cowboy. "Johnny Jones" also offered a very interesting picture of the daily life of the American schoolboy. The American guests stated that they felt very near home when they visited the Western Transvaal towns of Ventersdorp, Potchefstroom, Wolmaransstad, Christiana, Schweizer Reneke and Klerksdorp from 9th to 13th of August.

The people of the Western Transvaal also were very interested to see what a country similar to their own looked like because the attendance figures grew to 2,250.

(d) Dr. H. Schroeder, the Attaché for Press and Cultural Affairs to the German Embassy offered a brilliant pictorial display on *Germany*. This was by far the largest display on any one country which was offered during the Bookweeks and consisted of no fewer than 28 screens of 6ft. x 4ft. The display dealt with a great variety of subjects ranging from historic, religious, educational and cultural topics to pressing problems such as post-war reconstruction, refugees and the German press. The main point of criticism was that nowhere did people have time to make a proper study of the material presented. This display was exhibited in the following towns in the North-western Transvaal from 23rd to 27th August: Lichtenburg, Zeerust, Zwartruggens, Thabazimbi and Rustenburg. The large audiences everywhere - 2,136 people attended the programmes - were intrigued by the interesting picture of peasant life in Germany offered by the film "Das Haus am Herdfeuer". Music lovers found "Klingendes Holtz" very interesting - a film on the making of violins. The quiz master was rather disconcerted by the profound knowledge of Germany displayed by some of the teams. A question such as "Name the three masters of Middle High German Court Epic (poetry)" was answered without hesitation on three occasions. It should be remembered of course that there are fairly strong German-speaking communities in the districts of Lichtenburg, Zeerust and Rustenburg.

(e) The representative who was literally "the nearest home" was Mr. R. B. N. Wetmore, Official Secretary to the Office of the High Commissioner for *Rhodesia and Nyasaland* in Pretoria. From 30th August to 3rd September he accompanied the Library Organizer to Brits, Nylstroom, Ellis Ras, Vaalwater and Warmbaths. The Common-

wealth display material was again used and supplemented by additional photographs, pictures and maps on the Federation. The audiences everywhere showed great interest in their neighbouring states (and their curiosity was very ably met by Mr. Wetmore, who is an accomplished speaker). Audiences everywhere were impressed by the very high quality of the coloured films shown, such as "Luangwa Safari" and "Nyasaland, land of the lake". Tobacco farmers at Brits, Nylstroom and Vaalwater had the opportunity of putting many questions on tobacco culture to Mr. Wetmore and many were so impressed by what he told them that he had there and then to suggest alternative routes for tours of the Federation. Armchair travel to the Federation could be converted into real travel by more people than in the case of the other countries because of its proximity to the Union. Approximately 2,075 people attended.

(f) *Israel* was represented by its Consul-General in Johannesburg, Mr. E. Eylon. He accompanied the Library Organizer from 13th to 17th September to visit the Middleveld towns of Middelburg, Witbank, Belfast and Lydenburg. Apart from 13 small panels with interesting and informative photographs of the various activities of modern Israel, the Israeli display contained many other interesting articles. Among these were 28 beautiful dolls in historical biblical costume; hand-woven cloths and hand-embroidered sabbath-cloths and materials; hand-made vases, pots, scrolls and tiles to illustrate the influence of biblical motives on the creative arts of modern Israel. A display of the beautiful Israeli stamps attracted considerable attention. In the evenings time was always too short to answer the many questions which were fired at Mr. Eylon by his enthusiastic audiences. On this tour afternoon programmes for children were arranged every day and the total attendance for the four days was 2,600. Among the beautiful films which Mr. Eylon took along the children will long remember "Hadassim", the children's village, while to adults it was an ex-

perience to see "The Book and the Idol", a quite exceptional archaeological film. Dr. S. H. Pellissier, Chairman of the Library Advisory Board, accompanied this tour on Israel for the first two days of the week.

(g) The 1954 series of bookweeks was concluded by a joint effort by *Australia* and the *Netherlands* visiting the Highveld towns of Ermelo, Piet Retief, Volksrust, Standerton and Bethal from 20th to 24th September. To both countries this week proved to be fortunate and very unfortunate. It coincided with the visit to South Africa of the Australian parliamentary mission, and it very closely coincided with the arrival in South Africa of H. R. H. Prince Bernhard. The week therefore was the appropriate time for the display but the staff at both missions were so occupied with other arrangements that they could not give the time and attention to the Bookweek which they had wanted to give. Mr. R. Woolcott was prevented from participation and Mr. P. Korthuys could not leave Pretoria at the time but was able to procure the very able services of Mr. H. Bloem as a speaker on the Netherlands.

The Australian Trade Commissioner in Johannesburg kindly made a part of a large exhibition on Australia available for the display which was used in addition to the Australian part of the Commonwealth display.

The brilliant under-water colour photography in the film, "The Great Barrier Reef" will not be lightly forgotten by those who saw it.

Mr. H. Bloem was indeed a very lucky choice as a speaker on the Netherlands and the audiences were greatly impressed by his profound knowledge of the Netherlands and of South Africa. Mr. Bloem was for many years secretary of the Nederlands-Zuid-Afrikaansche Vereeniging. Apart from very good photographic material the Netherlands display contained several other items of interest such as a set of Van Gogh prints, prints of the old masters, a set of different miniature windmills, a set

of dolls in national costume and a large number of flags and pendants. The film on the Aalsmeer flower market was of a very high standard.

The attendance figures again were gratifying and came to a total of 2,538 for the week.

(h) All preparations have been made to hold a similar Bookweek on France in the Southern Region and M. Canson (First Secretary to the French Embassy) has signified his willingness to take part in the project. Though circumstances prohibited the project for 1954 it will be undertaken early in 1955.

On the whole the Armchair Travel Book-weeks produced very gratifying results. A total of approximately 14,500 people attended the formal programmes where approximately 1,500 good books on travel and description were brought pertinently to their notice by means of displays, talks, discussions, quizzes and film shows.

The foreign representatives also welcomed the opportunity to meet people of the rural areas and to establish contacts in the country which otherwise would have been very difficult to achieve.

A special word of tribute is due to the fine spirit of co-operation displayed by all the foreign missions. A lot of time and money went into the preparation of the displays and in three cases these were presented to the Library after the tour. They were all only too willing to help prepare the displays in the mornings, talk to people all day, give their talks in the evenings and after the programmes help to dismantle, pack and load the display; then perhaps still attend a party and so to bed in the early hours of the morning! Without exception all our speakers were well-informed, well-liked and managed to establish pleasant contact with our rural readers straight away. They all brought large amounts of give-away material (booklets, brochures, folders, maps) and in most cases presented beautiful volumes on their countries to the Mayors personally or to the public libraries.

In a number of cases they were even called upon to serve as projectionists during the film shows. Even where they were expected to address as many as four different audiences on the same day (e.g. morning: Farmers'

association; Luncheon: Rotary Club; Afternoon: Children; Evening: Adults), our guest speakers cheerfully met the demands made upon them.

The Regional staff of the Transvaal Provincial Library were responsible for the local arrangements after the Library Organizer had discussed the project with the local authorities in principle:

- (a) The local authorities made suitable halls available free of charge (the town halls in most cases);
- (b) The Regional librarians in collaboration with the local communities undertook the publicity. Apart from articles in the major daily papers; radio talks and items on the S. A. B. C. Regional News which were supplied by the Library Organizer, the following publicity methods were employed locally:
 - (i) A series of articles in the local paper;
 - (ii) Slides, financed by the local authority, in the local bioscope;
 - (iii) Announcements at all schools, distribution of leaflets through school children;
 - (iv) House-to-house distribution of leaflets and distribution by local library together with personal canvassing;
 - (v) Use of loud-speaker in the streets on the day of the function.
- (c) Flower arrangements for the hall had to be obtained (no mean task during the dry winter months);
- (d) A local organization had to be found to serve refreshments (usually in aid of local charity);
- (e) A projector complete with projectionist had to be obtained (it seems essential that the Library should procure its own projector);
- (f) The services of the Mayor (or his representative) had to be obtained to open the function and where possible to arrange a civic reception for the visitor;
- (g) The quiz teams had to be arranged (even though the ladies' teams won quite often, ladies were a bit backward in coming forward when members were recruited for quiz teams).

The fine spirit of co-operation which we enjoyed, the help and hospitality offered us

everywhere and the very active public interest in the 1954 Bookweeks will serve not only as ample rewards and happy memories, but as new and heartening proofs that the public library of to-day has a more important function

than the mere distribution of popular literature; also that if learning be offered in an acceptable manner members of the public will be only too ready to avail themselves of it.

BOEKRESENSIE

Van Schoor, M. C. E. en Malan, S. I.: 'n Bibliografie van werke oor die Oranje-Vrystaat vanaf die vroegste tye tot 1910. Bloemfontein, Universiteitsbiblioek, 1954. 113 b. Afgerol.

Dis allesins verblydend dat hierdie twee persone by al hul ander werksaamhede – hulle is geskeidenonderwyser en universiteits-bibliotekaris onderskeidelik – kans gesien het om hierdie omvattende bibliografie saam te stel by geleentheid van die Vrystaatse eeufees en sodoende 'n waardevolle bydrae te lewer tot die skraal Suid-Afrikaanse bibliografiese literatuur.

Die opstellers het die materiaal in vier tydperke ingedeel: vanaf die vroegste tye tot 1848, 1848–1854, 1854–1902 en 1902–1910. Onder elkeen van hierdie groepe het hulle die volgende onderafdelings: (1) staatspublikasies, (2) publikasies van en oor staat- en kerklike stukke, (3) periodieke publikasies en (4) ander werke. Aan die end is daar dan 'n skrywers-, onderwerps- en titelindeks in een alfabetiese volgorde.

Omdat daar geen voorsiening gemaak is vir 'n afdeling vir werke wat die hele tydperk dek nie, het die opstellers etlike werke onder elkeen van bogenoemde vier groepe herhaal. Dis iets wat ek jammer vind. Om die waarheid te sê, ek sou in plaas van bogenoemde indeling 'n geklassifiseerde lys ver-

gies het wat nie alleen sulke herhalings sou uitgeskakel het nie, maar m. i. dit ook vir navorsers makliker sou gemaak het om materiaal oor een of ander aspek van die Vrystaat bymekaar te vind.

Wat die individuele opgawes betref, is dit deesdae gebruiklik om nie die naam van die skrywer in die titelbeskrywing te herhaal nie (vgl. B. N. B.). Die opstellers doen dit in sommige gevalle, maar nie konsekwent nie. Ek sou ook graag gesien het dat die opstellers by elke item wat slegs gedeeltelik oor die Vrystaat handel, aandui presies watter bladsye oor die Vrystaat handel. Aangesien die opstellers in hulle werk moes uitvind waar elke item beskikbaar is, vind ek dit jammer dat hulle nie die feit in hulle bibliografie vermeld het nie. Dit sou van onskatbare waarde vir die navorsers gewees het in 'n land waar daar nog nie 'n gesamentlike katalogus bestaan nie.

Die opstellers beklemtoon die feit dat die lys slegs voorlopig is en daarom wil ek hier daarop wys dat bestaande opmerking slegs op kleinighede betrekking het; hoofsaak is dat daar nou wel 'n bibliografie oor die Vrystaat bestaan. Ek wil verder die opstellers geluk wens dat hulle die bibliografie in Afrikaans opgestel het. Hulle moet egter onthou dat die meervoud van *bibliografie bibliografie* is en nie *bibliografie* nie soos dit herhaaldelik in hulle inleiding voorkom.

D. L. E.

BOOK BUSINESS IN SOUTH AFRICA

by G. F. LAURENCE

Director of Juta and Co., Ltd.

(Based on a talk held at a meeting of the Southern Transvaal Branch of the South African Library Association in November, 1954)

BOOK TRADE in the Union started off with the importation of overseas publications in High Dutch and English, but gradually booksellers found that they were being approached to assist in having books published locally, to satisfy the demand for books on certain subjects of local importance and colour. There was, especially, a gradual increase in the publishing of text books for school use and of legal publications, so that by degrees certain booksellers developed publishing houses which grew more and more in stature. A great fillip was given to local publishing when Afrikaans became one of the official languages of the Union, although firms publishing in Dutch suffered heavy losses from unsold stocks at the time of the change-over.

To-day, owing to the very rapid increase in the size of the reading public, it is possible for South African firms to publish, without too great a financial loss, titles which only a few years ago would have found no readers. There is also a heightening of standards regarding the quality of book produced. Publishers who strive for better quality, be it in printing, layout, illustrations, paper or binding, are finding that slowly but surely readers are becoming appreciative of the beautiful book, and that this appreciation results in increased distribution.

Authors and publishers, together with printers, are vital links in the science of creating the final book, and although books are factory-made, some firms strive to give these books an externally distinctive appearance to suit their inner perfection.

Publishers are human beings trying to earn their living at an unusually difficult occupation – it is so easy to become a publisher, but difficult to remain one – and the mortality rate is extremely high.

Local publishing can be divided into three parts: publishing in English, publishing in Afrikaans and publishing in the Native Languages. In the first group, heavy competition from the overseas English-speaking world has to be met. In order to succeed in this field exceptional qualities are called for on the part of all concerned. In Afrikaans publishing competition is localised and boils down to a fight between publishers who regard their work as a vocation and those who regard it as a money-making concern, regardless of standards of quality. With regard to publishing in Native Languages, a vast field awaits cultivation, and there will be overseas competition, but as yet no South African or Overseas House is fully organized for this task.

Let us now follow a book as it progresses from the hands of its author to the shelves of the bookseller. Every author submits a "masterpiece". The publisher has to decide on the merits of the case, and very often calls for specialist opinion to guide him in this respect. He often also has to read the manuscript himself and, in the final decision, not only knowledge is necessary, but also what is known as *flair* – a sense of knowing what is publishable or not. The relationship of publisher to author is a very personal one; mutual help and co-operation on all aspects of production are essential.

When a manuscript has been accepted the next step taken is "casting off" and estimating. Format, paper, type-face, illustrations and binding are decided on, influenced by the character of the manuscript and the House Style of the publisher. This House Style refers to such matters as title, punctuation, capitalization, quotation marks, type-face, footnotes, foreign words and phrases, quality of paper, strength of binding and quality of style.

of cover. Estimates and quotations for editions of various sizes, say 3,000, 4,000 and 10,000 copies, together with dummies of the proposed book, are now received from the printers.

With all this available, publisher and author have a personal interview in order to come to an agreement. There are three different types of payment to an author. The first, outright purchase of copyright by the publisher, is not favoured, as the author is embarrassed if the book fails to sell and the publisher loses, while the publisher is embarrassed if the book succeeds beyond expectation and the author does not receive a fair share of the profits. The second is a profit-sharing arrangement which is usually entered into in connection with legal, medical and university publications. Actual costs of advertising and production are covered and then both parties share on an agreed-upon basis in profits. This is not suitable for novels or educational works for which the third type of payment is usually made, namely, royalties. These can be calculated as a percentage of either the full published price or of the amount accruing to the publisher after subtracting the normal trade discount. The first is usual in the United Kingdom, the second in the Netherlands and South Africa.

The type of payment to author, the published price, trade discounts, etc., have to be fixed to the mutual satisfaction of author and publisher. I give an example of a typical case, tabulated firstly to show how the estimate of cost of production is arrived at and, secondly, the published price of the book :

I. Production

Setting text	3s.	2d.
Binding	1s.	8 1/2d.
Coloured frontispiece		2 1/2d.
Dust-jacket		4 1/4d.
Blocks		3 3/8d.
Line Blocks		1 3/8d.
	<u>5s.</u>	<u>10d.</u>

II. Published price

Cost	5s.	10d.
Author	1s.	3d.
Advertising		6d.
Trade	3s.	9d.
Balance	3s.	8d.
	<u>15s.</u>	<u>0d.</u>

This is for a book of a general nature. For school books, where costs have to be kept very low, the procedure is somewhat different, and the author usually receives less. A set of readers, such as the *Fonteinreeks*, needs a board of editors and an artist and the costs, before the books go on to the market, are very high indeed.

The cost of publishing has increased enormously since the war. Fifty years ago novels published overseas of about 80,000 words were published for 6s. In 1939 the price was about 7s. 6d. To-day it is from 12s. 6d. to 15s. The difference in price does not however, go into the publisher's pocket. Authors' royalties and booksellers' discounts have gone up proportionately. Printing has gone up by 125 per cent, binding is four times the pre-war cost, paper has gone up from 3d. to 1s. 6d. a lb.

When all these matters have been mutually agreed upon, printing goes forward. Meanwhile such matters as the vesting of copyright, translation rights, authors' corrections, free copies, review copies, libel and reprinting are considered and decided on.

At last the first copy is produced — always a thrilling moment. On that day, usually very near publication day, all the preliminary advertising spadework has been done and the book trade throughout the country and in other areas, such as the Rhodesias, the Central African Territories and Madagascar has been informed of the new book, discounts, terms of carriage and so on.

So the book comes to the shelves of the bookseller and the third section of this paper is reached

In proportion to the size of its population, our country is to-day one of the largest users of good literature in the Commonwealth. For this the excellent service rendered by the bookshops is in a large measure responsible. The bookseller is not a man who weighs his wares on a scale. He is the link between the author and the customer. He has knowledge of, and takes notice of, what the critics say. He also has his own opinion and he can guide and advise his customers in their literary demands.

South African booksellers obtain their supplies from local publishers or from overseas, either directly from the publishers or through export wholesalers. Buying from local publishers they receive approximately the following

discounts: 33 1/3 per cent on fiction, 25 per cent on educational and 15 per cent on legal, medical and technical publications. They have to pay carriage, except in the case of fiction.

From overseas the discounts vary from nothing to 50 per cent, so-called half-price books. Where a 50 per cent discount is given, books are retailed at British published price. Other titles, supplied at varying discounts, are sold at an increased price, bringing the profit in each case roughly to that made on the 50 per cent discount book. Heavy importing charges – in all nearly 20 per cent – have to be met, so that there is very little left to enable booksellers to pay reasonable rents and salaries and still show a profit at the end of the year.

After having provided for the capital, salaries, rent and advertising, the bookseller must allow for unsold copies and bad debts. He must carry a large selection of standard books, dictionaries, classics, general literature, history, travel, biography, religion, belles lettres, children's books, in both English and Afrikaans.

It is not possible to buy all the suitable 6,000 odd new titles that are published annually; a bookseller has a basic stock and buys new books according to anticipated demand; display space, staff and capital must be taken into consideration, also the fact that in South Africa overseas books are bought "firm" and unsold copies cannot be returned. Titles which will not sell are eventually "remaindered".

The booksellers' field of operation is a vital link in the whole set-up of author-publisher-bookseller-reader. The function of the author is to write; that of the publisher to build up a list of publications; that of the bookseller to give the customer a choice of titles in the same field, emanating from many publishers. The customer, or reader, of course, buys – whether he is an individual, a library, an organization, a school, or any such institution.

As the reading public in South Africa is so far from the source of publication, with regard to United Kingdom books, bookselling here has a particular charm and challenge and booksellers have to engage in "risk buying", backing their judgment by ordering the

correct quantities in relation to their business and the anticipated demand. Juta's *Monthly Book News* is an attempt to guide this demand by giving authoritative information about new publications; it is successful because it is appreciated by such a very wide field of readers. Our reading public in the Union to-day is larger than it has ever been before with regard both to books *bought* and to books *borrowed* from our many excellent libraries.

In the matter of the distributing of literature, I am one of those who regard the whole of our trade as a unit. I love to see an excellent library in the town where I am and I most certainly feel that librarians are a component part in the whole of the trade set-up. As booksellers have their job, so librarians and libraries have theirs. In my opinion the more libraries there are the better. Good libraries stimulate the buying of books. At its lowest level, I could imagine somebody calling reading a habit-forming drug. Well, if that is so (and of course I do not agree), I do feel that once the reading habit forms part of an individual's make-up, he will ultimately buy books.

So, as far as the library is concerned, it is my opinion that it makes readers of people who would not read if it were not for the library. They see many books in *your* library which they may not come across when they visit *me*. Eventually they buy for themselves and give books as gifts to others.

Libraries, as I have shown, fall into the fourth group of the publishing set-up – the buyers; they *are* customers and they *make* customers by stimulating readers, and although the argument is sometimes advanced that it is cheaper to buy directly from the publisher, the libraries of this country give their support to the book business of South Africa by supporting the booksellers. Ignoring this one link in the chain would show disregard of the fundamental unity of the business, the duty and privilege of each member to pull his weight, receive his due, and concede the right of existence to other members – even if in certain instances, it would appear to be at slightly higher cost.

QUALITATIVE SERVICES: NEW METHODS OF STIMULATING READING IN NATAL

by TH. FRIIS

Natal Provincial Library Organizer

AT OUR LAST Conference in Bloemfontein I tried to indicate what to my mind should be the direction of future development of our public library services in South Africa. In the meantime we have taken the bull by the horns and have implemented some of these recommendations. The year 1954-5 has therefore been and still is a very busy but exciting and rewarding year for the staff of the Natal Provincial Library Service.

In Natal we have now reached the stage where *quality* of service rather than *quantity* is our aim. We have been able to register as members of our service nearly every community centre in Natal. We now have the highest per capita circulation figure, the highest number of books in relation to our rural population, and also the highest number of registered libraries in relation to our rural population of all four Provinces in South Africa. In every sense of the word it is an extensive Library Service. However, the day has passed when we could measure our achievements in quantitative terms. These high figures only indicate a certain degree of growth which could be mere water-shoots with little fruit-bearing ability. The unanswered question remains: What is the total contribution of the public library services towards the personal happiness and intellectual development of the individual in South Africa, and on our national level, towards the standard of education, cultural development, and economic ability of the nation as a whole? It is not my intention to deal with this complex problem of evaluation. In this article I merely want to point out some of the measures instituted in Natal with the specific purpose of influencing the *quality* of our public library service in this Province.

Programme

There are various methods well known to the profession which can be used to this end. Natal decided on the following:

- 1 A comprehensive survey of adult educational facilities available in the Province.
- 2 To lecture in the country on the subject of the rôle which the book and library can and ought to play in the life of the individual, the family, and the community, with its implications for us as a nation.
- 3 Bookweeks.
- 4 "You and your community days".
- 5 Family relations exhibitions.
- 6 Extensive bibliographical services including a Union Catalogue for Natal.

These six projects have been instituted in the 1954-5 programme. The following is our programme for 1955-6:

- 7 The introduction of audio-visual material.
- 8 Hospital services.
- 9 The publication of a Natal Provincial Library Journal.
- 10 Bookweeks on specialized subjects.

The 1954-5 programme was planned in close collaboration with the Regional Organizer for Adult Education in Natal. Shortly after my return from America we had a meeting in my office attended by representatives of the Adult Education department, Regional libraries, our Central reference library, the Processing Department and the Administrative Section of the Provincial Library.

From our deliberations it became very clear that we have struck a source of endless potentialities. Through our joint effort we have at our disposal all the equipment and abilities necessary for the implementation of the programme. Adult Education supplies all the lecturers, films, records, projectors and display material. The Provincial Library undertook to supply transport, books, bibliographical services, do all the necessary advertising and make all the necessary arrangements for meetings, halls, receptions, etc. It is to my mind a

joint venture which enables both departments to develop to their fullest potential. It is not only *possible* but absolutely *essential* that this development should be implemented throughout the country.

M O D E S O P E R A N D I

It is obvious that most of the work must be done by the Library Services. We have a staff of 36 while Adult Education in Natal has only one officer and a part time typist.

Project 1: Adult Education Survey

This idea originated from Mr. Wilken, Regional Organizer of Adult Education for Natal. For the library this "Intellectual Survey" is important, for when it is completed we shall know how to direct our acquisitions policy ; it helps with regional subject emphasis ; it helps to evaluate the intellectual and cultural development of a given area or community ; it helps with the establishment of discussion groups, play-reading societies and the co-ordination of activities of community leaders. An *ad hoc* committee consisting of the following members, has been formed.

Chairman: Mr. Th. Friis, Director of Provincial Library Services.

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. Eyre, City Librarian, Durban. Prof. Lloyd, Natal University.

Secretary and Convenor: Mr. St. Elmo Wilken, Regional Organiser for Adult Education.

Members: 1. Ds. J. de Clerk, Chairman of the „Skakel-Komitee”, Durban.
 2 Mr. J. R. Sullivan (Snr.) ex-M. P. and Director of Griggs and Co., Durban.
 3 Mr. Sullivan, Chairman of the Durban Publicity Association.
 4 Mr. S. J. van der Walt, Principal of the Port Natal Primary School, Durban.
 5 Mr. A. Williams, Principal of the Natal Technical College, Durban.
 6 Mr. E. Howell, Principal of the Pietermaritzburg Technical College.

When the survey is completed, we hope early in April, a brochure will be published

through the assistance of an Education Department grant. Copies will be distributed through our libraries to matriculants and other people interested in these facilities. Information about organizations such as libraries, museums, music societies, debating societies, and gymnastic facilities will be included.

Project 2: Lectures on the Place of the Book in Society

I personally accompanied Mr. Wilken on his 6 weeks' tour of Natal. Lectures were given by representatives of the Departments of Nutrition, Physical education, Adult education, Home economics and the Provincial library. At each meeting the Provincial Library had hundreds of books available on the topic under discussion. Books were issued on the spot to anyone interested through the local public library. At each place I gave a lecture on the rôle of the book and libraries in the family and community life. This venture proved an enormous success. More books were issued on family life and related subjects during these 6 weeks than in any one year previous to the tour.

Project 3: Bookweeks

On similar lines to the bookweeks given abroad, the Natal Provincial Library arranged bookweeks on France, Holland, the United Kingdom and Italy. We have visited five towns per week, in each case publicising a specific country

These bookweeks have proved to be very popular. At each place the attendance has been far beyond our expectations. We drew full Town Halls. Flags, music of the country, 1,000 books on each country, Embassy speaker, civic receptions, films, quizzes, talks and large posters added to the popularity of the venture. We made it our duty to have as complete as possible an annotated bibliography on these countries available. The one on France comprised 37 folio pages. At each meeting six experts were available to reply to questions - three of them are on the library staff and had visited the countries concerned. The newspapers made a "splash" of the venture, the S. A. B. C. interviewed us and notes of appreciation were received from all over the Pro-

vince. Bookweeks have come to stay and have proved to be a powerful instrument in stimulating more and better reading. We can now tackle something more ambitious. The seed is sown – within the next few months we shall be able to tell if there is a crop. We are sometimes over-anxious to institute our ideas without following up with a thorough evaluation of our work. We are able to tell how many books were issued, soon we shall be able to tell how they circulated in a given area, but the crux of the matter still remains unknown – what has been the effect of the reading on the life of the individual? We need insight, we need research, we need knowledge on the *quality* of our service. On the whole there is no doubt that bookweeks make for learning in a more acceptable manner and to my mind a more effective manner than the ordinary lecture method.

Project 4: "You and Your Community Day"

This is a very extensive task – 40 towns are visited by 4 speakers each. The opening ceremony takes place at 10.30 a.m. in the town hall by the Mayor of the town. Mr. Wilken follows this with a lecture and films at 11.00 a.m. on the basic elements of personality. Mr. Vermeulen from the Library staff, who has just completed a Dale Carnegie Course, addresses the meeting at 3.00 p.m. on "You and your personality". Again films are being used to illustrate the subject. At 7.30 p.m. we have a public meeting with the specific object of establishing at least one of the following :

- 1 *A Discussion Group* under the auspices of the library – lecturer, Th. Friis.
- 2 *A Playreading Group* under the auspices of the library – lecturer, Mr. Vermeulen.
- 3 *A Music Society* – lecturer, the Regional Librarian of the area.
- 4 *A Film Club* – lecturer, Mr. Wilken from Adult Education.

An annotated bibliography of 25 pages has been prepared for the venture. All the books are on display throughout the proceedings with the right extended to the public to borrow them through their local public library.

Again, as in previous projects, the library

makes all the arrangements for halls, opening ceremonies, teas, 500 printed posters (4ft x 2ft), S. A. B. C., Press notices and announcements, 1,000 leaflets for each town, transport, hotel accommodation and display material.

It is clear that the library must be dynamic – we must create the demand and whet the appetite for books, and not sit back and wait for our clients to call on us. It is no trial and error method; our adult education survey has proved the vital need for the establishment of these groups.

Project 5: "Exhibits on Marriage"

This is a project initiated by Adult Education and the Marriage Guidance Council of Durban in conjunction with libraries in Natal. Exhibitions of a week each are being held in the Durban, Pietermaritzburg and Estcourt Public Libraries. Books on the subject are being made available by the Provincial Library and the public libraries concerned.

Project 6: Bibliographical Services

This is a very important aspect of our joint venture. Whenever we have the opportunity we prepare *extensive* annotated bibliographies for adult education, Women's Institutes, debating societies, and other organizations. We do not believe in preparing a six- or eight-title bibliography on a special subject. Whenever it is possible we prepare an extensive document with a worthwhile annotation to each item. Very often our bibliographies run to 40 foolscap pages each. We have so far reorganized eight of our larger public libraries in Natal. A complete catalogue of each exists in each Regional library, the Central reference library and our Central organization. With the help of the "Photo Clerk" we hope to have a complete catalogue of all books in Natal, including University, special, and the Durban and Pietermaritzburg Public Libraries.

This, then, outlines our programme for 1954–5. How do we manage it? The secret is a full, enthusiastic, and loyal staff, a very co-operative Provincial Administration, the proper equipment, such as specially made art-screens, enough panel vans and station wagons, and above all, hard work.

Now that we have had the actual experience I am even more convinced that the direction

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for our public libraries should lead towards closer co-operation with adult education, or perhaps even better, the total amalgamation of the two departments. It is *quality* that

counts and not mere quantity. New ideas on how to improve the *quality* of a public library service will be welcomed from readers of this journal.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Cataloguing principles and practice : an enquiry.
Edited with an introduction by Mary Pigott. Library Association, 1954. 159p. 14s. (10s. 6d. to members).

Contents include Current research in cataloguing ; new developments in cataloguing in the *British National Bibliography* ; punched card systems ; and cataloguing in municipal, university and special libraries.

Thornton, J. L. and R. I. J. Tully. Scientific books, libraries and collectors : a study of bibliography and the book trade in relation to science. Library Association, 1954. 288p. 24s. (18s. to members).

An important book-stock aid, especially for library students.

Library Association. The year's work in librarianship, 1950. Edited by W. A. Munford.

Library Association, 1954. 270p. 40s. (30s. to members.)

This volume (no. xvii in the series) marks the end of this work in its present form. Its place will be taken by a *Five Years' Work in Librarianship*, the first volume of which is planned for publication in 1956.

List of abbreviations of names of societies, organizations, etc. Compiled by the Library and Information Division, C. S. I. R. Pretoria, C. S. I. R., 1955.

In a brief foreword the compilers explain that this list has been prepared as a practical tool, with 'a distinct bias towards scientific institutions and those connected with South and Central Africa'. Within these limits, it is a useful acquisition. In a future edition, the compilers should include the mystic formula SABRA, which is missing from the basic work.

LIBRARY NOTES AND NEWS

International exchange service

Mr. S. J. Kritzinger, Chief Government Librarian, informs us that the Clearing House for publications of the Libraries Division of Unesco, which was established in 1946, has requested that the responsibility for the distribution of lists of publications free or on an exchange basis, should be transferred to national exchange services.

For some time past a service of this kind for government libraries has been rendered by the office of the Chief Librarian in Pretoria. The Department of Education, Arts and Science has now requested the Chief Government Librarian "to administer the collections from South African libraries for exchange or free distribution abroad, and to circulate offers made from other countries to all interested libraries in the Union".

It should be made clear that the Chief Government Librarian on no account undertakes to transmit exchange material; this is the responsibility of the libraries concerned. Libraries making direct exchange transactions with overseas institutions will of course not be affected by this new arrangement.

Friends of the South African Library

After testing the response to a trial circular the Trustees of the South African Library, Cape Town, convened a public meeting on 22 February 1955 to consider the formation of an Association of Friends of the Library, on the lines of similar Associations overseas. Positive replies were received from many parts of the Union and from the Rhodesias, as well as from enquirers from Lisbon, Uppsala and several English centres.

The purpose of the proposed Association is to encourage the work of the National Reference Library, and to provide financial and moral support for the Trustees in the development of the Library's resources. The Botanical Society of South Africa, which stands in a similar relation to the National Botanic Gardens at Kirstenbosch as the proposed Association to the S. A. Library, provides a good example of a self-governing public body

existing largely for the encouragement of a State-aided institution. It is hoped that the Friends of the Library will eventually gain representation on the Library Board by virtue of the financial support they are able to muster for the Library.

At the inaugural meeting, which was attended by more than 120 people, a Council of eleven members was elected to draft a constitution and determine future policy.

Societas Bibliographica

It is announced that Mr. Theodore Besterman has established at Geneva the *Societas Bibliographica*, for the production of important works of reference which cannot be handled on a commercial basis. The first publications to be issued over this new imprint are a third edition of Mr. Besterman's own *World bibliography of bibliographies* and a second edition of Alfred Loewenberg's *Annals of Opera*. The editorial address of the *Societas Bibliographica* is 25 rue des Délices, Geneva, Switzerland.

Dr. Coblans in Geneva

Dr. Herbert Coblans, formerly Librarian of the University of Natal, writes to inform colleagues and friends that he has been appointed to organize the library and information service of the *Conseil Européen pour la Recherche Nucléaire* (CERN), and that his present address is: Chef du Service d'Information, CERN, Case Postale 25, Genève-Aéroport. Dr. Coblans has since been appointed to the Editorial Board of the well-known publication, *Revue de la documentation*.

Freer's List: future arrangements

Arrangements have been made whereby the Scientific and technical section of the *Catalogue of Union Periodicals* will now fall under the care of the Principal Information Officer, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Pretoria (Miss Hazel Mews). In order to prevent confusion, it has been decided that all new entries and corrections to old ones shall be received by the C. S. I. R. in the first

instance. Titles in the humanities, after preliminary sorting, will be passed over to the Librarian of the University of the Witwatersrand for incorporation in a revised or supplemented edition of that part of "Freer's List". The revision of the Scientific section and possible publication by the C. S. I. R. is at present under discussion, and colleagues wishing to contribute suggestions for World List or other arrangement, are invited to get in touch with Miss Mews on this subject.

Copyright deposit: prosecution in Cape Town

What is thought to be the first prosecution to be brought under the relevant part of Act no. 9 of 1916 (the "Copyright Act") occurred in Cape Town on 20 January 1955, when the Competent Publishing and Printing Company (Pty) Ltd. were charged with contravening the law by failing to deposit at the South African Library within one month of publication date, a copy of their pamphlet "South Africa's way forward", by M. Kotane. The accused were found guilty, cautioned and discharged. A copy of the work concerned had subsequently been deposited at the Library.

Proceedings were in this case instituted by the Police, and not by the South African Library. Publicity was, however, given to the requirements of the Act, which are intended to ensure, *inter alia*, that at least one copy of every work published in South Africa shall be preserved for future reference.

Commission of enquiry in regard to undesirable publications

It was announced in the Government Gazette of 11 February 1955 that this Committee has compiled a questionnaire, copies of which (in either English or Afrikaans) will be sent to any organization or person interested, on application to the Secretary of the Commission, P. O. Box 1132, Pretoria. The Commission invites memoranda and expressions of opinion from interested bodies throughout the Union.

Zagreb Conference of IFLA

We have received copies of three reports presented at the Annual Conference of IFLA held in Zagreb in 1954. These deal with the

cost, cataloguing and bibliography of serial publications; the Inter-governmental Convention for the protection of cultural property; and problems arising in the public library in the supply of reading matter to the blind. These reports are available for consultation in the Association's professional library, at the State Library, Pretoria.

Postwar foreign newspapers

The Library of Congress Reference Department has issued a comprehensive *Union list of postwar foreign newspapers*, running to 231 mimeographed pages. Latin American papers are excluded, as these were to be included in a Union list to be compiled and published by the library of the Pan American Union. The holdings of 76 American and Canadian libraries are recorded, arranged alphabetically by country. Holdings on microfilm are specially indicated.

South African newspapers make an unimpressive showing. The *Cape Argus* is available only in the week-end edition in one library, and although the *Cape Times* is held on microfilm in no fewer than five American libraries, *Die Burger* is not even mentioned. Johannesburg is represented by a fragment of *The Star*, by incomplete issues of *Die Vaderland*, by three vernacular papers, and by the *African Jewish newspaper*: that is all. No Bloemfontein paper is represented, and the choice of Natal papers is peculiar, to say the least: all three of the best-known dailies are missing.

A survey of foreign newspaper holdings in South African libraries would probably produce even more startling results. It is, indeed, a sad commentary on the inadequacies of modern "communication media" that the products of the newspaper presses of the world are not better known and distributed both at home and abroad.

Telefacsimile system for inter-library loan.

A telefacsimile system similar to wirephoto has been in experimental use in Washington, D. C., for some months. In a demonstration held recently, communication by this means was established between the Library of Congress and the National Institute of Health at Bethesda, thirteen miles away. This was the

first attempt in this area to use facsimile as a substitute for the time-consuming loan of scientific journals.

A flying spot of light scanned the article transmitted; the blacks and whites of the printed page were converted by photo-electric cells to electrical impulses, which were sent over special telephone lines and reconverted to print in Bethesda at the rate of 15 inches each minute.

Commenting on the demonstration, a press

report says that scientists receiving the copy were enthusiastic over the speed of the service. Since they could keep the copy at hand, rather than returning it to a library at the end of a borrowing period, they were freed from the usual "overdue" notices. Workers at the library originating the loan, in addition, need not be deprived of books that are borrowed for the usual lending periods.

Our Bibliographical Committee has taken note.

KAAPSE PROVINSIALE BIBLIOTEEKDIENS

Op alle dorpe in die bestaande twee streke van die Kaapse Provinciale Biblioteekdien is biblioteeksentrums vir nie-blankes in die lewe geroep net sodra die blanke biblioteke vry geword het. Sulke sentrums is gestig by nie-blanke skole omdat dit veral die kinders is wat geletterd is en leesstof nodig het. Die volwassenes maak egter ook van die boeke gebruik. Daar is ook sulke sentrums gestig by etlike nie-blanke skole buitekant die dorpe.

Op die oomblik is daar 54 sulke biblioteeksentrums en nuwes word van tyd tot tyd geopen. Ongeveer 20,000 boeke is tot dusver vir die gebruik van nie-blankes beskikbaar gestel en hieraan word voortdurend toegevoeg. 5,338 nie-blankes, waarvan 3,497 kinders was, was teen die end van 1953 lede

van die biblioteekdien en hulle het gedurende 1953 81,223 boeke uitgeneem.

Die nie-blankes op die platteland lees hoofsaaklik Afrikaans wat dan ook uitsluitlik hulle moedertaal is. Van die boeke wat hulle uitgeneem het, was net 17 persent Engels. Die persentasie nie-fiksie wat hulle uitneem, is egter ietwat hoër as dié wat blankes uitneem.

Benewens bogenoemde, word kaste met vyftig boeke elk ook nog eenkeer elke ses maande aan 36 nie-blanke skole in ander dele van die Provincie gestuur. Presiese ledetal- en uitleensyfers van hierdie diens is nie beskikbaar nie.

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NOTES ON DOCUMENTATION

by O. H. SPOHR

University of Cape Town Libraries

DIAZOE COPIES

The September 1954 number of the *Nachrichten für Dokumentation* carries an interesting illustrated article on the use of Diazoe copies in documentation; mainly recent German apparatus is described. Dyeline copying for libraries, a most instructive supplement in the Nov. - Dec. 1954 number of *UNESCO Bulletin for Libraries*, stresses the following forms of application: Abstracting service, catalogue cards, reprints, and out-of-print publications, and the possibility of disseminating doctoral theses.

South Africa is fortunate in having dye-paper coating factories for the two most used processes: Ozalid in Johannesburg (P.O. Box 7926) specialize in paper suitable for ammonia developing; they also build plan printers and import models suitable for library use. Helios in Chester Road, Cape Town, coat paper for the Oce and Retocée, a semi-dry process, and hope to import in 1955 improved printing machines of which the smallest is specially constructed for use in libraries.

FOR THE BINDERY

Padding Compound, also known as flexible or plastic glue, for stitchless binding, is now available in the Union; the imported brands are slightly more expensive than the locally manufactured kind. Le Page (England) available in red and white retails at 45s. per gallon; Brooklyn Laboratories, P.O. Box 4681, Cape Town, sell their white compound at 30s. per gallon. The leading stationery and printing trade supply houses carry stocks.

A small German apparatus "Hanseat" for stitchless binding is now imported into the Union and sells at £26. (John Dickinson & Co. (Africa) Ltd.). At a recent demonstration I discussed its merits with our Bindery. The

Hanseat appears to be a useful "gadget" for a small library which has no bindery of its own and wishes to do some of its own binding.

FOR THE DUPLICATING DEPARTMENT

At the Bloemfontein Conference a small model of one of the leading offset duplicators was demonstrated. Both Multilith and Rotaprint are represented in the Union with small office models ranging between £400-£500. Pre-sensitised photographic masters to be used on these machines are now available in the Union. Printing frames to print from a translucent positive film on to these masters are also imported. The U.C.T. Photographic Dept. is now trying out this method of reproduction and hopes to advise other interested libraries in due course. Distributors for these photographic masters and printing frames are Messrs. Mathieson & Ashley Ltd., P.O. Box 501, Cape Town and offices in all the principal towns in the Union.

Mechanical collators, either hand-operated desk models or larger foot pedal-operated models, ranging from \$99 to \$547 (F. A. S. New York, plus importing costs) do away with long or large round tables with many of your staff milling round to pick up duplicated copies. With this ingenious device one operator collates from 5 to 16 pages with one movement in a space not larger than an ordinary typewriter table. John Dickinson & Co. (Africa) Ltd., are the distributors for South Africa.

Catalogue cards "The use of microphotography in cataloguing technical documents" and "How to reduce cataloguing costs" are two worth-while contributions in the August 1954 issue of *American Documentation*. For anyone interested in getting his material quicker and cheaper to his readers, some constructive thoughts are offered.

MICROFILM IN THE KITCHEN-SMOKING IN LIBRARIES

In the same number, Dr. Vernon Tate, Librarian of M. I. T., Cambridge, Mass., reports on the annual meeting of the National Microfilm Association which contains the following paragraph: "... the 'Kitchen of Tomorrow' recently exhibited at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York, featured a kitchen range with built-in microfilm projector and screen so that a housewife can consult a voluminous file of recipes on microfilm rapidly and conveniently."

When I met Dr. Tate a few years ago he talked most expertly on the best food places in Boston and Cambridge and appeared to be a member of the fraternity of male amateur cooks. An engineer by profession, a librarian by calling, brought up in the Spanish-speaking parts of the U. S. A., his pipe is always lit. He proudly pointed in his most luxurious new "Hayden" Library at M. I. T. to a small cubicle reserved for "non-smokers" and told me that in the first two years his chief desk assistant noticed that nobody entered this abode.

We at U. C. T. provide ashtrays in the seminar rooms of the library. When will our public libraries provide facilities for one of the best taxayers in South Africa?

DOCUMENTATION PERIODICALS

I meant to give in this column a list of the leading quarterlies which deal with documentation. UNESCO's *Bulletin for Libraries*, Nov./Dec. 1954, did me out of a job by publishing a most comprehensive "list of bibliographical documentation and library journals", in French and English. UNESCO is trying to cover the whole world, and so adds another milestone on its attempts to bring education, science and culture of all nations together.

MICROREPRODUCTION AND REPRINTS

A circular letter from the Committee on documentary reproduction of the American Historical Association, University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill. U. S. A., and a leaflet from the

Readex Microprint Publications, (100 Fifth Avenue, New York) announces the publication of the British House of Commons *Sessional papers*, 1731-1800. The first part of this programme, the 19th century sessional papers has now been concluded. The *Journal of the House of Commons*, 1547-1800, is also to be published in microprint form. For these 6 x 9 inch microcards a much improved specially designed reader sells at \$175.00 f. o. b.

Apart from the above reprints Readex Microprint are republishing U. N. documents and U. N. current publications, Russian historical sources, certain U. S. A. Government publications from 1953 onwards, and the Library of Congress subject catalogue from 1950.

This Microprint publisher claims a 97 per cent saving in shelf space and the official publications of the most antagonistic political régimes can be put so closely together that in the remaining 3 per cent there should be a possibility for world peace after all.

The aforementioned UNESCO *Bulletin* draws attention to a number of photographic reproduction projects, e.g. the contents pages of some 200 European Scientific and Technical periodicals are issued as positive copies on microfilm by the Documentation Centre of the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, 16, rue Pierre Curie, Paris, 5e. Music on microfilm is issued by the University of Rochester Press. The Association of College and Research Libraries issue on microcards studies in the field of library science.

REVIEWING DOCUMENTATION

The last number at hand of the *Journal of Documentation* (10 (3), Sept. 1954) gives again some of the best international reviews of books, articles, pamphlets and activities in the field of documentation. This journal mainly surveys for the English reader the most important publications from other countries, and only a few articles deal with English libraries and their problems.

U. D. C. AND THE COLON THEORY

American Documentation in its October 1954 issue carries informative articles on these two subjects.

PHOTOGRAPHIC MATERIALS FOR
REPRODUCTION TECHNIQUES

On my table are some recent pamphlets by Agfa, the leading German firm for photographic materials, describing their latest range in papers and films suitable for reproduction processes. There is hardly any photographic method for which there is no Agfa paper or film. Agepe - Agfastat - Copex - papers and films have been mentioned in this column before, but we are now informed that great improvements have been made, and their South African distributors (Messrs Taeuber & Corsen, P.O. Box 2953, Cape Town) are prepared to have a sample range of these lines at hand.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SERVICE
POINTS IN SOUTH AFRICA

South African Library Conferences may be good or bad. I, anyhow, discovered that my amateurish directory of Photographic Service Points in Southern Africa, issued in 1949, is hopelessly out of date. The librarian of the University of South Africa not only told me that he was struggling with a Contoura or similar reproduction camera to provide some sort of photographic service, but that he hopes in the near future to establish a proper photographic reproduction department. The University of the Orange Free State in Bloemfontein already have some fine equipment and apparently only need some trained staff to offer an efficient photographic service. Potchefstroom University for C. H. E. also has limited equipment and can provide some form of photographic reproductions.

Altogether we seem to make considerable progress on the photographic front.

DOCUMENTATION IN SOUTH
AFRICA

The September 1954 issue of the *Quarterly Bulletin* of the South African Library quotes *Historical documents of East and Central Africa* as one of the most important and ambitious under-takings of recent years, "based on microfilm copies of documents in the archives of Portugal, Goa and the Vatican dating from the sixteenth to the nineteenth centuries". There will be limited number of copies in English and Portuguese.

While these notes are going to press, two South African reference tools are being issued by the University of Cape Town Library.

Miss M. E. Green, on behalf of the University of Cape Town School of Librarianship, edited, and Mr. R. Musiker, of Johannesburg Public Library, compiled a "Guide to South African Reference Books" as No. 1. of a South African Booklist Series of the University of Cape Town School of Librarianship. For further titles in this Booklist Series see the advertisement in this number.

Mr. R. Musiker has also been helping to bring an old South African Library Association project into being: a guide to special libraries and collections in the humanities. My own initial enquiries brought only a moderate response, and it is due to the relentless efforts of Mr. Musiker that the issue of a preliminary list of the kind intended is now an imminent probability.

MORE NOTES ON DOCUMENTATION

The Editor of *South African Libraries* will always be glad to learn of news relating to documentation from libraries and other institutions in Southern Africa as well as from commercial firms established in this country.

THE REFERENCE LIBRARY OF THE TRANSVAAL MUSEUM, PRETORIA

A short account

by THELMA CAMPBELL

THE REFERENCE LIBRARY of the Transvaal Museum was started towards the end of the last century, during the time of the South African Republic, by Dr. J. W. B. Gunning, the first director of the "Staatsmuseum". It is chiefly due to his foresight that the Library to-day possesses some fine items of Africana and other valuable books now unobtainable.

The subjects we are mainly concerned with are Zoology, Botany, Ethnology, Prehistory, Palaeontology, Physical Anthropology, History and Travel.

There are approximately 16,000 volumes, 12,000 of which are made up from scientific periodicals received in exchange for the *Annals of the Transvaal Museum*, as gifts, or by purchase through annual subscriptions. To this may be added an important collection of some 30,000 reprints or pamphlets, among which special reference may be made to the valuable entomological pamphlets acquired from the eminent South African entomologists, Drs. A. J. T. Janse and H. Brauns, and palaeontological pamphlets from the collection of the late Dr. Robert Broom.

In the zoological section, especially in the fields of entomology and ornithology, there is a particularly fine selection of books. Here are to be found early standard works such as :

Linnaeus. *Systema naturae* . . . 12th ed. 3 vols. Holm. 1766-68.

Buffon (G. L. L. *comte de*). *Histoire naturelle* . . . 64 vols. Paris. 1750-1804.

Cuvier (Georges, *baron*). *Le règne animal* ("Disciples" edition). 20 vols. Paris. (1836-49).

Brown (Peter). *New illustrations of zoology*. London. 1776.

Le Vaillant (F.). *Histoire naturelle des oiseaux d'Afrique*. Paris. 1799-1809.

Harris (Sir William Cornwallis). *Portraits of the game and wild animals of South Africa*. London. 1840.

Huebner (Jacob). *Verzeichniss bekannter Schmetterlinge*. Augsburg. 1816-(27).

Drury (Dru). *Illustrations of exotic entomology*. London. 1837.

In the periodicals section many of the more expensive publications are obtained by subscriptions while others are acquired by exchange. Of these, which in most cases date back to the time of their inception, special mention may be made of the following :

Annals and Magazine of Natural History. London, (1838-).

Transactions and Proceedings, Zoological Society of London (1833-).

Genera Insectorum (1902-).

Gross Schmetterlinge der Erde (1909-); and *The Ibis* (1859-).

Zoological works of importance are purchased for the Library, whenever possible.

For taxonomic workers there are works by Sherborne, Neave, Schudder and the *Zoological Record* which dates back to 1830.

In the Botanical Section, amongst others, there are some beautifully illustrated works in colour such as :

Jacquin (W. J. *freiherr von*). *Plantarum riariorum horti Caesarei Schoenbrunnensis descriptiones et icones*. 4 vols. Vienna. 1797-1804.

Curtis' *Botanical Magazine*. 1st Ed. 40 vols. 1793-1814.

Andrews (H. C.). The botanist's repository for new and rare plants. London. 1797-1811.

Marloth (R.). The Flora of South Africa. 4 vols. (in 6). 1913-1932.

Flowering Plants of South Africa. 29 vols. 1921 onwards.

Apart from the Africana previously mentioned, there are to be found :

Dapper (O.). Description de l'Afrique. Paris. 1686.

Kolbe (P.). Beschrywing van de Kaap de Goede Hoop. 1825.

Angas (G. F.). The Kaffirs Illustrated. 1848.

Smith (Sir Andrew). Report of the expedi-

tion for exploring Central Africa (1834) : 1836.

Harris (Sir W. C.). Narrative of an Expedition into Southern Africa. 1838.

Travels by J. Harris (1705) ; Burchell (1824) ; Lichtenstein (1803) ; Le Vaillant (1796) ; Sparrman (1786) ; Campbell (1815) and others.

Requests for loan of publications, especially from Universities and other research institutions, are being constantly received, and whenever possible, are met ; but when the book is too valuable to be despatched through the post, photostat copies of the articles are made at the borrower's expense, through the excellent services available at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research.

New Books

South African Shore Life. Dr. K. H. BARNARD	10/6
Koekversiering vir die Huisvrou. MARGIE SMUTS	17/6
The true filed line - a choice of English poetry. T. TYFIELD	9/6
The Cape Peninsula - The complete pocket guide to all aspects of Nature and Man in the Cape Peninsula	9/-
Quadrilles and konfyt. M. KUTTELL	15/-

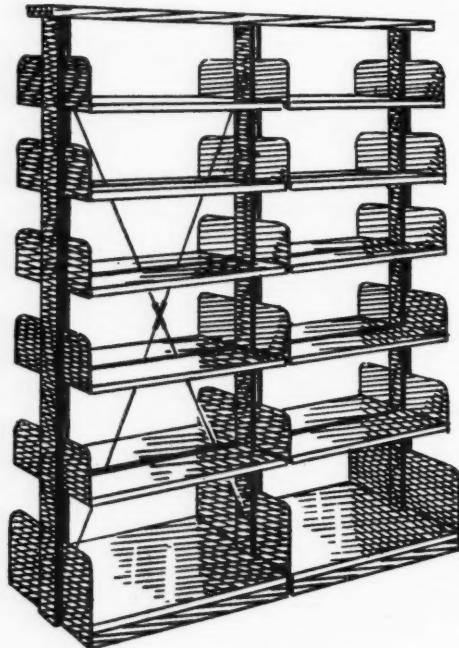
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The Director, School of Librarianship, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, Cape

ONS LETTERKUNDE WORD VERRYK

Vir dié van ons wat belangstel in die letterkunde het die jaar wat verby is groot rykdom gebring. Van ons grootste skrywers het gedurende 1954 vir ons werke van onskatbare waarde gelewer. Ons is opreg dankbaar! Die drie werke hieronder is elkeen met 'n W. A. Hofmeyr-prys bekroon.

NUWE VERSE – N. P. VAN WYK LOUW

Lank het Van Wyk Louw geswyg, maar hy het ons verras en ons is verheug oor Nuwe Verse, Posvry 15/9

PERIANDROS VAN KORINTHE – D. J. OPPERMANN

Die eerste drama van 'n bekende digter, 'n werk wat menige kenner verbaas het. Die eerste druk is reeds uitverkoop, maar 'n tweede oplaat is nou beskikbaar. Posvry 22/3

RABODUTU, DIE EENSAME – G. H. FRANZ

Vorige werke van hierdie groot Naturelle-kenner tel onder die belangrikste in ons prosa. RABODUTU sal u weer eens nie teleurstel nie. Die segswyse van die Naturel verleen 'n besondere bekoring aan hierdie idilliese roman. Posvry 13/3

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